MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 AUGUST 1981

Iran

Foreign Minister, Khalkhali on Gunboat--Tehran radio carried a recorded interview with Foreign Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi in which he said that last week's seizure of an Iranian gunboat off the southwestern Spanish coast was part of an American plot involving the CIA. He also said the hijackers carried out the operation with the cooperation of the Moroccan Government, which was directly responsible for this act of piracy. In a live relay from the Majlis session earlier in the day, Tehran radio carried a speech by Sadeq Khalkhali in which he asserted that counterrevolutionaries seized the vessel on orders from French President Francois Mitterrand and the French Government.

Approval of Cabinet--Tehran radio broadcast a recording from the 17 August Majlis session that approved, with one exception, the new Iranian cabinet presented to the Majlis last week by Prime Minister Javad Bahonar. The proposed transportation minister, engineer Seyyed Hoseyn Tajgardan, was rejected.

Internal Security--Tehran radio announced on 17 August that 23 Mojahedin-e Khalq members have been executed at Evin Prison. The radio also reported that more than 160 leftists, including members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq, have been arrested in several cities.

According to Tehran radio, a reconstruction crusade member was killed in a rocket attack on a car traveling the Kamyaran-Kermanshah road. A Babol mobilization brother was also killed on the night of 16 August. The radio also reported that the Tehran Martyrs' Foundation headquarters was the target of two attacks mounted by the Mojahedin-e Khalq on 16 and 17 August.

Lebanon

Al-Wazzan Gulf Tour--SPA reported that Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan held two meetings with Saudi leaders in At-Ta'if. In remarks made after meeting Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, broadcast by Beirut radio, Al-Wazzan revealed that he had called on the Saudis to support the convening of an extraordinary Arab summit conference to discuss the Lebanese and Middle East situation. The radio later reported that Saudi Arabia had agreed in principle to this request. On 18 August, KUNA reported Al-Wazzan's arrival in Kuwait on the second leg of his tour of Arab countries.

Security Situation--Beirut radio reported that armed clashes between communists and the Shi'ite Amal Movement in a southern suburb of the capital died down after Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) entered the area to halt the fighting. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, 20 people were killed and 80 were wounded in the clashes. The radio said six ADF soldiers were among the dead. Meanwhile, Beirut radio noted that the contact lines between east and west Beirut were calm although linking roads remained closed.

Syria

Damascus radio reported that an electrical short circuit in the Prime Ministry building caused a fire that killed three government employees. According to Monte Carlo radio, the fire resulted from a big explosion that rocked the government building. Helicopters transported employees to safety from the roof, the radio noted, while security forces sealed off the area. Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm and his deputies were not in the building at the time of the explosion.

PLO

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf asserted that the PLO would grant the Soviet Union bases if it had land at its disposal. Claiming that the United States intends to liquidate the PLO, Khalaf warned that Israel and the United States would launch another strike against the Palestinians "very soon." He indicated that the PLO has asked the Soviet Union for antiaircraft missiles but pointed out that the Arabs themselves can provide enough weapons to defend Lebanese airspace. Noting that Syria has given the PLO permission to stage military operations from the Golan Heights, Khalaf disclosed that Jordan's King Husayn has refused a Libyan request to allow the Palestinians to operate against Israel from Jordan.

Afghanistan

Kabul Radio carried a recording of President Babrak Karmal's 16 August speech to Afghan Armed Forces PDPA activists in which he stated that the PDPA Central Committee Politburo has decided to establish a DRA Defense Council for the purpose of unifying party and state organs and patriotic forces in their efforts to crush the enemies of the nation.

Correction to 17 August Review

Page ii, last paragraph, line one should read: "... the armed forces, reported by Kabul radio, President Babrak Karmal..."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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SALAH KHALAF INTERVIEWED ON STRUGGLE, RELATIONS

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[AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM interview with Salah Khalaf--Abu Iyad--Fatah Central Committee member; in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] The attempt to assassinate Abu Dawud [Muhammad Dawud 'Awdah] in Warsaw was the second against his life. There have been numerous reports and rumors carried by news agencies to the effect that some Palestinian parties were involved in these attempts. How true are these allegations?

[Answer] There are attempts to distort the truth about the attempt to assassinate brother Abu Dawud in Warsaw. This is not the first time this struggler has been the target of an assassination attempt, but we do not announce many abortive attempts on the lives of our men.

I hope--indeed, I am confident--that it is Israel that is behind this attempt, because I do not believe that any Arab or Palestinian would attempt to assassinate a struggler with such an honorable history. He has worked with me since 1967. He has carried out every task he was charged with very well, regardless of the nature of such tasks. Abu Dawud is definitely an honorable struggler.

As for the information we have, we have a clue to this crime. This clue could lead to the identification of the culprit. All signs are that the Israeli intelligence service, the Mossad, is the real culprit. Incidentally, the Mossad maintains a large presence in Warsaw and participates in the subversion against Poland's socialist regime by supporting and inciting antisocialist elements.

Some news agencies reported that Abu Dawud led a mutiny inside Fatah in 1972. Such reports do not deserve a reply. They are ridiculous. This struggler was never against Fatah or the revolution to which he belongs. It is possible that he has his own views and ideas. We are accustomed to democracy within the movement. Even the reports that he has close connections with dissident forces or splinter groups are totally unfounded. We hope Abu Dawud will recover from this blow--which was not a light one--and reveal some of the facts which he surely knows about the culprit and the attempt against his life.

[Question] The Palestinian leadership, and Abu 'Ammar in particular, have been anxious to sort of rehabilitate Abu Dawud, as there have been some clouds in the past....

[Answer] Abu Dawud did not stop working for more than 6 months. After that he was working constantly with me. I used to charge him with tasks on behalf of the revolution and Fatah. His last trip--during which the attempt on his life took place--was one of these missions. I affirm that Abu Dawud was charged with an honorable mission. What hurt me was not only that he was the victim of an assassination attempt but that he carried out his mission with great success. The mission was not connected with the countries he visited but was connected with our struggle against Israel.

[Question] The United States recently proposed a two-part solution to the Middle East question. The first part deals with Camp David and its development and the second part with Lebanon and affects the Palestinian resistance directly. Ideas were put forward in the second part on expanding the area of UNIFIL's deployment in southern Lebanon, strengthening the Lebanese Government and, what is more serious, preventing the arming of the Palestinian resistance. What is your comment on this plan?

[Answer] Regarding the cease-fire, we have not been notified of any conditions. The party that talked to us directly about this matter was the United Nations in the person of Waldheim, through his representative in Lebanon, Gen James Callaghan.

Twenty-four hours after Abu 'Ammar's meeting with Callaghan the [Palestinian-Lebanese] joint command met and decided to accept to the UN call. I reaffirm that we were not told of any conditions by any quarter, be it the United Nations or any Arab or non-Arab country--neither directly nor indirectly.

This is regarding the cease-fire. I wanted to refer to it because it has been reported that Israel links the cease-fire with three conditions: expanding the area of UNIFIL's deployment, strengthening the Lebanese Government and army and preventing the arming of the Palestinian resistance. We have nothing to do with these conditions which Israel imposed on the U.S. Government or on the quarters that called for a cease-fire.

With regard to UNIFIL, I believe that we have facilitated its work and task.

With regard to strengthening the Lebanese Government, we have never objected to that. But is it arms and money that the Lebanese Government needs? We believe that the strengthening of the Lebanese Government can only take place by achieving national reconciliation among the Lebanese and by the government's taking a clear-cut stand toward those who deal with Israel. I have never seen a government that does not recognize Israel and says that it is a member of the Arab League and part of the Arab nation and them pampers those who are dealing with Israel.

As for the third condition, it is ridiculous. I do not understand how the U.S. Government can constantly supply Israel with all sorts of weapons to destroy the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and ask a people, a movement, a revolution or an organization not to arm itself in self-defense.

[Question] There is talk about a Saudi political role in bringing about the cease-fire. It has emerged during recent months that the PLO's relations with Saudi Arabia are good. Bearing these relations in mind, do you expect that the cease-fire decision to be connected with a new U.S. stand toward the Palestinian question, particularly as some people are calling the latest war [in Lebanon] the war of recognition of the PLO?

[Answer] There is one war in history that was agreed upon beforehand and that is the October war. In order to be fair, we should say that the agreement was made by the Egyptian side and not by the Syrian side, for the sake of a so-called peace that was, in our view and in the view of all the Arabs, a great treason in which As-Sadat himself told me that the war would be a limited war and would last 10 days. As-Sadat could not limit the time of the war unless he had agreed on this with Washington. I discussed this matter with him but he denied it and tried to exonerate himself.

Now, if this latest war was agreed upon, one can say that it was a war for recognition or mutual recognition. But the fact is that we were the victims of aggression and we stood fast honorably in the face of this aggression.

It is true that Saudi Arabia exerted pressure on the United States to bring about a cease-fire, but there was no talk about recognition with either Saudi Arabia or with any other party. There was something that was funny for the whole world: When Israel agreed to the cease-fire it tried to portray it as a cease-fire with the Lebanese Government, because it refuses even to say "PLO," and the world ridiculed this attitude.

It is natural that in the course of exerting pressure for a cease-fire Saudi Arabia or any other party will talk with the U.S. Government, even by telephone, and it is natural that the name of the PLO should be mentioned, even though they do not recognize it.

In all honesty there is nothing new in the U.S. stand--neither before the war nor after it. The proof of this can be seen by following As-Sadat's trip to Washington and the discussion that took place between him and U.S. officials about the PLO--and although it is not honorable for any Palestinian or Arab for As-Sadat to talk on their behalf, the nature of that discussion made it clear that there was nothing new in the U.S. stand toward the Palestinian question and the PLO.

[Question] Do you not believe that this victory achieved by the joint forces [against Israel in Lebanon recently] could lead to the strengthening of Palestinian regionalism, because some people could think that the Palestinian revolution could liberate Palestine by itself?

[Answer] If any such thinking should arise, it would be superficial. If we had been sure from the beginning that we are able to achieve liberation on our own, we would not have hesitated for a moment to wage a decisive battle of liberation, however costly if might be. In such a battle it is permissible for anyone to be regional [iqlimi], but the Palestinian is not allowed to be so because we are convinced that the Palestinians alone without the Arab nation are not able to liberate a single inch of territory. Here one should say that all our disputes with the Arab regimes are due to our belief that our strikes inside the occupied territory and our revolutionary action are capable of creating a revolutionary climate, even in the countries that are far from the confrontation line, through the sacrifices of the fedayeen, who for a long time have not been only Palestinians. There are fedayeen from all the Arab countries fighting among the ranks of the Palestinian revolution, from Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, the Gulf countries, the Arabian Peninsula and the Maghreb. Therefore, we in the revolution's leadership always say "the fighters of the Palestinian revolution" and not "the Palestinian fighters." Time has shown that the Palestinian revolution is an identity of struggle and is not regional at all. If we say that the Palestinian revolution is for the Palestinians, it means that we are not serious.

It is not incidental that we extend our hands to all Arab liberation movement, despite our cooperation with many regimes in view of considerations connected with the recognition of the PLO as an official body representing the Palestinian people. We consider ourselves part of the Arab and world liberation movement. We are not ashamed of this because we are well aware that our cause will not be resolved by us or by the Arab world alone and without international support.

I tell you frankly, in the light of the present balance of the conflict in the region and the world, that if we had the capability to sign treaties with the Soviet Union we would have signed 1,000 of them, and if we had land to grant the Soviet Union bases, we would have given it 1,000 bases. This is because we are facing an enmy bigger than Israel. Our enemy is the United States, which is accompanied by more than half of the Arab regimes through relations that rely on sapping the Arab economy. This is why we say that the revolution cannot triumph without the Arabs and without an ally and a friend as strong as the Soviet Union.

[Question] To return to the U.S. stand, in your judgment is it a result of the fighting or a result of Habib's shuttle trips in the area?

[Answer] Philip Habib's mission in the area began with the missile crisis between Syria and Israel. During his shuttle trips the war broke out. The war exposed the plan but did not create it.

In my view the United States has begun to think seriously about the Lebanese question. The summoning of Bashir al-Jumayyil and Habib's shuttle trips--and some reports today referred to his imminent return to the region on a specific mission connected with Lebanon--are not incidental.

In my answer to a previous question, I talked about the essence of the U.S. plan that centers on preventing the arming of the Palestinian revolution, the strengthening of the Lebanese Government and the expansion of the area of UNIFIL's deployment. Furthermore, there are the statements by the new Israeli Government, all of which indicate that there will be another round.

All this confirms that there is a U.S. trend to liquidate the PLO. This is to be done by the U.S. Government putting its Arab friends in a corner and asking them to persuade the PLO to accept the Israeli conditions for a cease-fire. Here there will be a contradiction between the stand of the Arabs cooperating with the United States and the PLO stand. Thus Israel will use this as a justification for its aggression and the Arab friends of the United States will not be able to exert pressure on it once again to bring about a cease-fire. In my view this is the aim of the U.S. plan. They know that what Israel could not take from the PLO and the joint forces in war it will not be able to take peacefully.

Therefore, there will be another round very soon. This is not a predication: The strike will be much harsher. The United States is armed wiht this new stand, and Habib will bring it to the region. This stand has not been put to us so far, but I am sure that it will be. They know beforehand that we will reject it out of hand, but their goal is to arm Israel and the friends of the United States in the Arab world with a stand and a justification.

[Question] You said that if we had land we would have granted the Soviet Union bases on it. Why doesn't the Soviet Union give you missiles? Have you asked for such missiles from the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, and specifically from Syria and Libya?

[Answer] It would be misleading to say that we have not asked. It is well known that we asked all the Arab countries for military assistance. Arms for us have no color. We accept any arms from any source. We have asked everybody, but every side has its own circumstances--on the Arab level.

Moreover, why should we turn to the Soviet Union when the Arabs have all the weapons needed to defend Lebanon against any plane or at least prevent it from doing as it pleases? In this context, they all say that they have their special circumstances, either external or connected with the Lebanese Government.

This is with regard to the missiles. As for other types of weapons, the fact is that the three countries you mentioned, the Soviet Union, Syria and Libya, are helping us and particularly with missiles and guns.

[Question] Some people ask why the Lebanese should alone bear all this pressure when other Arab fronts could be used. President Hafiz al-Asad has personally declared more than once that the Golan is open to you, and it is known that the presence of Palestinians in Jordan permits the possibility of action from that front.

[Answer] Not all that is known can be said. I am not covering up for the stand of any party, whoever it may be, but I say that Syria has allowed us to carry out operations from the Golan. It is up to us to choose the kind, timing and size of operation without going into details because details are our secret. As for the Jordanian front, when we have the opportunity we shall carry out our activities. Regrettably, many of our patrols are arrested by the Jordanian Army and our strugglers are thrown into Jordanian jails. Despite this, we do infiltrate [through Jordan] on many occasions and strike despite all the obstacles placed in our fighters' way. These obstacles--regrettably, once again--protect Israel, whether the Jordanian leaderships want it or not.

The question the Arabs should ask is: Why are we not allowed freedom of action from the Jordanian front?

[Question] It is said that during Jallud's visit to Jordan Libya asked that the Palestinian resistance be allowed freedom of action.

[Answer] Yes, but King Husayn refused. He said Jordan is not sufficiently armed to confront the Israeli reaction.

[Question] Brother Abu Iyad, we want a frank answer. In the past there was some tension in relations between Kuwait and the PLO. How are these relations now?

[Answer] The U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian plan that began to be implemented following the Camp David accords was aimed at making the Gulf governments and peoples fear the presence of Palestinians in the Gulf. This was carried out in two directions. The first was that the Camp David accords do not solve the problem of the Palestinians abroad, and consquently they will have to become settled wherever they are in the Arab countries. This caused some Gulf governments to tighten their control and deprive Palestinians of entry visas. The second direction was the carrying out of acts of sabotage and attributing them to the Palestinians, so as to prevent their entry into Kuwait or any other Gulf state. This created a state of hostility as a result of the U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian plans and schemes.

For our part, we did all we would to reassure the brothers in Kuwait and the Gulf in general that we reject settlement and that we reject the Camp David process part and parcel, and that we are fighting the Camp David process and attempts to settle the Palestinians. But these efforts were not fruitful. Confidence has been shaken. The relations now need to be reassessed because they are not natural. In my view Abu Jihad's recent visit was one of our attempts to explain the situation.

PALESTINIAN ORGAN EXCORIATES ARAB REGIMES

JN161834 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1550 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Under the headline "Are You Indeed Against Camp David?" Today's FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH says: Do those who brag day and night that the Palestinian question is a national cause for them as well as for their states and wealth know that the Palestinian people are gravely facing an all-out war of annihilation? Have the Arab rulers read what the Zionist enemy says, namely that 250,000 Palestinians have been detained since the 1967 aggression? Do the Arab regimes know that one out of every five Palestinians is detained by the Zionist occupation authorities?

One whole month has passed since the Israeli raid on Al-Fakihani. Undoubtedly, the Arab rulers and all officials have learned about the type of rockets that fell on the civilians and Palestinian revolution offices and destroyed entire buildings. What have the Arab regimes done to prevent the enemy from repeating such bestiality? Nobody in the whole world, other than the 23 Arab states, has accepted such bestiality by their disgraceful silence over the incident and by failing to answer it.

After the Israeli raid--rather, after we have survived the raid, because if we had died the Arabs would have been spared the need to fight--the Arabs attended our funerals, expressed their grief and sorrow over the dead children and then left for their capitals with obvious relief. We say that after the Israeli raid, which was designed to annihilate us, kill our leaders and liquidate our fighting forces in the south, the Arabs said at the Arab Defense Council: Why did we not call an urgent meeting of the foreign ministers instead of the Defense Council? The world defense here suggests that the Arabs want to challenge Israel, but we are not prepared for that. On the other hand, a foreign ministers meeting would have been routine diplomatic activity.

They also said: We do not have to make any reference to the United States, because this will complicate the question of putting pressure on Washington. As for victory, it is useless to talk about it.

Many are the scandals we can cite about that meeting, which came as a reply to the Al-Fakihani massacre and as a means to bolster the Palestinian revolution's steadfastness. Perhaps the biggest surprise was the PLO's defiance of such defeatist logic. The others adopted different stands even against the PLO.

Now people in every capital know that the Palestinian people know no sleep. Some 250,000 Palestinians are in detention camps and 500,000 others in Lebanon live in 12 camps, where they know no sleep. Why? Well, it is not just that Israel is waiting for the right moment to deal its crushing blow. Israel has dealt its blow, yet the Arab rulers have done nothing about it

The United States provides Israel with F-15's and F-16's while the Arabs stint us one missile to protect our children in Al-Fakihani, Ar-Rashidiyah, 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Sabra, Shatila and An-Nabatiyah. Do we tell them that we have to blame others and accept our inevitable fate? Or shall we destroy the temple over us, Israel and all those who accept our death as a fact? We reject our death sentence: It is our right to control our life and death in a manner capable of changing this bad world and these bad times.

This accepted and desirable death is not our fate. This is a sentence issued by those regimes that accept Israel as a fait accompli. This is not the first or the last sentence. We were sentenced to displacement, to camp life and humiliation. But we rejected the sentence and rebelled, and we are now a revolution. We are a rifle and a bomb. We have no other alternative but to challenge all of this accursed fate, which is being blessed by an Arab reality subsisting on defeat and evading victory.

Do we ask ourselves: Should we go along with Arab failure, shortcomings and collusion? Self-deception is no longer capable of facing the fate and its difficult issues. The real situation of the Arab regimes is incapable of confronting Israel. This failure explains itself by submitting to the Israeli aggression and by begging through Washington for a halt to this aggression. Hence, all the policies of the Arab regimes have no face or weight on international levels, because these policies are built on weakness in the face of strength and on accepting rather than confronting the aggression and on giving up the issue of Arabism instead of adhering to it and fighting for it.

Should we disregard the thinking of the masses by calling for an Arab summit to revive solidarity or should we call for holding a summit for steadfastness and confrontation, whose charter stipulates that it was set up for the sake of Palestine, which was sold out by As-Sadat? The statements made by the U.S. administration are incapable of embracing all the Arab hopes and aspirations. Washington does not respect weak regimes, let alone those regimes that are linked with Washington even more than Israel is.

We are describing the Arab situation so that we will not participate in the process of deception and response to deception which constitutes the vicious circle in the Arab policy. As they say, there are some working to achieve a settlement according to the U.S. approach and Camp David. There are also some who are against this settlement. The fact is that all that Camp David, with all its treason from the concept of Arabism, needed was a state like Egypt to sign it, and it did so with conditions humiliating for As-Sadat and his regime and abandoning Palestine, the rights of the Palestinian people and Egypt's commitment toward Palestine.

The battle of statements and counterstatements and the battle of exposing the U.S. designs are only signs pointing to the death of these forces. First question: Where do the malicious people stand and where do the masters of exposing the U.S. designs stand? We wonder: Where do their feet stand? Is the ground on which they stand really different from that on which As-Sadat stands? Facts might embarrass. The names might expose the false masks. We know that the people are aware of the real Arab policy, which opposes As-Sadat only in words and is actually preparing a road toward Washington. Also regrettably, there are some participating in the game of deception and delusion. This is like the umbrella protecting those heading toward Washington from our anger.

The correct thing is to judge matters differently. The weakness and weariness of the Arab body has made even Camp David out of reach. Political opportunism or capitalizing on opposition to the Camp David accords does not absolve the Arab regimes from answering this question. What have you done against Camp David? More than that, are you indeed against Camp David and with the camp of freedom, progress and socialism? Do these regimes really distinguish between friend and foe?

Opposition to Camp David has become a thick cover hiding those who are proceeding toward real surrender. It is more hideous than Camp David itself, because it would be unconditional surrender. For As-Sadat has achieved some of his conditions under Camp David.

If, for example, the United States says that it would not make any move to achieve peace in the Middle East--and of course whatever the United States says in this regard is mere talk and part of the game--what would the Arab regimes do? Would they say, for instance, that war is the only alternative? Would they go to the Soviet Union and set up an alliance in order to secure their usurped rights in Palestine and in other Arab territories?

We believe that this is the last thing that the Arab regimes are thinking about. As matter of fact, it will never cross their minds, despite all the statements and visits which ostensibly show that these regimes are preparing for war and serious ties with the Soviet Union.

Once again, is there any other alternative and are there serious practical options in our Arab homeland? Should we place the whole burden on the Palestinians and let the others rejoice in their abandonment of the cause and struggle?

The fire issuing from the bodies of our children and the shells fired by our artillery and rockets will remain the only pan-Arab [Qawmi] course and option, despite the siege and the plots hatched against us and Arab official abandonment of the Palestine cause. The sordid picture of our Arab homeland is not entirely the result of the aggression waged by Zionism, the ally of imperialism, which is plundering our Arab national wealth. The suppression of rights and the imprisonment of citizens by the Arab regimes are the causes of the Arab fall toward unconditional surrender.

The enemy occupying our land and threatening us is democratic, regardless of what we think of it. Conditions under such a democratic government are far better than those Arab theories of suppressing the Arab peoples, sometimes in the name of liberating Palestine and sometimes in the name of eliminating backwardness--when the Arab governments themselves are the biggest advocates and defenders of backwardness.

There is only one condition for liberation: That is the people's right to choose the type of government that suits them. Why is it that only the policies of As-Sadat and the sultan of Oman are singled out for criticism? Are the others angels and emissaries or gods in their devotion to the pan-Arab cause, especially the Palestine cause?

The Arab masses, which normally move against imperialism, Zionism and agentry, have not made a single move since the Beirut massacre. The death of over 500 children, men and women in the Al-Fakihani quarter of Beirut has not moved anyone. This is not because the masses are not anguished, but because the laws and regulations of the Arab states prevent any action, even if it is for the sake of Palestine. In the Arab regimes spying, execution without trial and detention without cause have become the law which governs the citizen's relationship with the state. As for the constitutions formulated by the so-called bourgois reactionaries, they have been violated and invalidated, because they fetter the hands of the new rulers.

This is the Arab position. Unless democracy returns and unless the Arab citizen regains his political rights first, he will not be able to fight to regain Palestine. He will fight first to regain his right to exist and his right to a respectable and honorable life. The Arab forces which accuse As-Sadat and others of national treason must first condemn the suppression of the Arab citizens' public and political liberties. We say: Give freedom to the masses and they shall give you their livelihood, faith and strength. The tyranny we are experiencing throughout the Arab arena is the cause of all the national humiliation felt by every Arab. The new forces must call for the restoration of true democracy to the people. It is then that we will know how strong we are with this freedom among the masses. As for tyranny, it is synonymous with occupation, aggression, bondage and subservience to Washington.

PLO OFFICIAL SAID TO MEET U.S. OFFICIALS IN U.S.

GF171355 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 16 Aug 81 p 1

['Amid ash-Shanti dispatch from New York]

[Text] AL-WATAN has learned that a senior Palestinian official living in one of the Gulf countries visited Washington at the invitation of the U.S. State Department early this month.

Informed sources at the State Department said the Palestinian official met with three senior State Department officials in a Maryland hotel. The sources said the U.S. officials asked the PLO to produce a map of the Palestinian state it seeks to establish. The PLO rejected the U.S. stand, however, and said it will define its demands following Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Our sources say that an Arab state took part in conveying the invitation to the Palestinian official and that this state is currently making special efforts to bring about a dialogue between the United States and the PLO.

'ARAFAT CHAIRS COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

NC180910 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] last night chaired a meeting of the coordination committee and the supreme security committee in order to implement the measures agreed upon at the meeting that took place in Damascus yesterday. Abu 'Ammar's meeting with the coordination committee and the supreme security committee took place in Beirut. These measures are related to the security situation and are intended as a way to watch violations and violators. The two committees also studied the security measures in the civilian areas.

VOP REPORTS LEBANESE COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER DEAD

JN150949 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1505 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Excerpt] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] paid a visit to the Lebanese Communist Party headquarters today, where he offered condolences to George Hawi, Lebanese Communist Party secretary general, and to the party Central Committee members on the death of Mustafa al-'Arif, Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee member.

BAHRAIN

NEWS AGENCY CITES PAPERS ON B-52'S ON DIEGO GARCIA

JN141019 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0908 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] Manama, 14 Aug (GNA)--Two Gulf papers today attack the British Government's decision to allow the stationing of the giant U.S. B-52 bombers on the Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia.

AL-KHALIJ, which is published in the UAE, describes the British Government's action as a serious development in the direction of turning the Arab Gulf area into a zone of tension and world power struggle against the wishes of its own people. The paper adds: Britain's action in allowing the United States to use the island of Diego Garcia as a nuclear base and the last staging point for its forces going to the Gulf area is completely hostile to the Arabs. It shows that Britain is always ready to curry favor with the United States and to ignore the demands of the Arabs, and the Gulf states in particular, about avoiding tension in the area.

The English-language KUWAIT TIMES says Britain's action in permitting the U.S. B-52 strategic bombers to use the Indian Ocean base of Diego Garcia is another unlawful act committed by both Britain and the United States. To the Gulf states, the paper points out, this new development is just another step in the effort to set up the Rapid Deployment Force which will be used to safeguard U.S. interests in the area. The serious thing about this step, KUWAIT TIMES adds, is that the B-52 bomber is the backbone of the U.S. nuclear strike force.

The two papers conclude their comments by calling for strong action to force the major powers concerned to remove their nuclear weapons and forces from the area. The papers also call on the Arab states to support the Gulf states in defending the interests of the Gulf people and Arab security in general.

KUWAIT

LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

18 Aug Arrival

LD180812 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0744 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 18 Aug (KUNA)--Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan arrived here today for a visit to Kuwait on the second stage of his tour of Arab countries. The purpose of the visit is to seek support for an Arab summit to discuss the situation in southern Lebanon. Among those who met the prime minister was the prime minister of Kuwait and the foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, as well as other senior officials.

Arrival Comments

LD181022 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0855 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 18 Aug (KUNA)--Al-Wazzan said that his visit to Kuwait is within the framework of consultations with Arab brothers for the good of Lebanon and for the sake of saving it. He warned that if adversity befalls one Arab brother his crisis and suffering are bound to reflect on all Arabs. He said that the present critical situation must be faced so that a further deterioration will be avoided. He said that Israel no longer discriminates between Arab confrontation states and supporting states: We are therefore all confronting aggression.

Al-Wazzan said that he feels that Arab states are responsive to Lebanon's call for a summit conference and expressed his hope that a unified Arab stance could be reached.

He said that the Arab followup committee, which is made up of the foreign ministers of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Lebanon is to meet as agreed on 3 September.

Al-Wazzan was asked if it is true that Lebanon has accepted a Libyan offer to provide Lebanon with an air defence network and whether the offer had anything to do with overhauling 12 French-built Mirage aircraft owned by the Lebanese Army. He said: We have decided to be prepared in everything we ask from our Arab friends.

Al-Wazzan said that Lebanon decided to arm itself after being offended and humiliated by seeing the Israeli Air Force fly freely and undeterred in Lebanese airspace. He said that the acceptance of the Libyan offer was within this framework and in keeping with this line of thinking. The decision to overhaul the Mirage aircraft was also in the same line of thought. He added: It is not possible to ask the Arabs for a unified strategy unless we are prepared to take a step toward such an initiative.

However, he explained that the acceptance of the offer is an acceptance in principle, since the offer has not crystalized either in its nature or its scope. He went on to say that Lebanon is waiting for details from Libya about the offer to provide Lebanon with an air defence network.

The Kuwaiti crown prince and prime minister, who welcomed Al-Wazzan, said that Kuwait is following the situation in Lebanon and is aware of the effects. He added that Kuwait is working alongside other Arab states and with the legitimate Lebanese authorities in order to create an amicable climate for conciliation in Lebanon.

Shaykh Sa'd urged everyone to work hand in hand to repel repeated Israeli attacks on Lebanon and to strive to restore stability and peace to Lebanon.

PAPER SAYS SOVIET NAVY TO ESCORT IRANIAN GUNBOATS

GF180830 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 17 Aug 81 p 1

[Excerpt] Diplomatic sources in Paris yesterday affirmed that the Iranian Government has asked the Soviet Union to provide naval protection for the two gunboats--which were built in France--on their way to Iran. The sources added that a Soviet naval unit will escort the gunboats to Iran.

SAUDI ARABIA

LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH LEADERS

King Khalid Reception

LD171131 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1105 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Aug (SPA)--His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received in his office at the Royal Court in At-Ta'if today His Excellency Shafiq al-Wazzan, the prime minister of Lebanon, who is currently visiting the kingdom. His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the minister of defense and aviation; and a number of prominent officials were present at the audience.

Comments on Talks

LD172148 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy to the prime minister and head of the national guard, has said that Saudi Arabia is behind Lebanon in anything that concerns the interests of Lebanon and the fraternal Lebanese people.

At the end of the second meeting with Shafiq al-Wazzan, the prince said that Saudi Arabia understands very well the present circumstances of Lebanon and that it will stand by Lebanon and get it out of the present crisis.

In reply to a question about the role of Saudi Arabia in unified Arab strategy, Prince 'Abdallah said that the role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is well known and clear.

Shafiq al-Wazzan emphasized the role of Saudi Arabia not only in the Arab world, but also in the Muslim world and the international community. He said that that role had been clearly and frankly expressed during his meeting with King Khalid today.

In a statement to SPA, Mr al-Wazzan said that the purpose of his current visit to Saudi Arabia is to explain why Lebanon has asked for an emergency Arab summit. He added: We in Lebanon have a special regard for Saudi Arabia and look toward its leaders, who, in all circustances, have proved that they correctly appreciate everything that Arabs and Muslims should do in the present circumstances.

The Lebanese prime minister went on to discuss the circumstances in which Lebanon called for an Arab summit. He confirmed that Lebanon insists that such a summit be held so that consultations can take place about conditions in Lebanon. He called on Arab states to lay down a unified Arab strategy to confront the common Israeli enemy. He said that in spite of all its wounds and suffering Lebanon is prepared to play its role in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Lebanese prime minister condemned the repeated Israeli attacks on Lebanon. He said that Lebanon is suffering from the effects of a real war against the Israeli enemy and its recurrent, ugly attacks on Lebanese territory. Mr al-Wazzan described the attacks as a great tragedy costing the lives of old men, women and children who live peacefully in their homes. There have been 300 dead and about 800 wounded. He also spoke of the negative effects of the raids, such as the destruction of oil installations and some vital Lebanese institutions. Shafiq al-Wazzan warned of the dangers of Israeli plots against Lebanon and the Arab world. He called on the Arab states to stand together to face these aggressive plots which are being gradually implemented in Lebanon and in the Arab world.

PDRY

ETHIOPIA'S MENGISTU ARRIVES ON WORKING VISIT

EA152108 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam was accorded a warm and comradely welcome on his arrival in Aden this afternoon at the start of his short working visit to the PDRY. On his arrival in Aden at the head of the high-level Socialist Ethiopian delegation, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, was accorded a heartfelt and friendly welcome by Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the country's Supreme People's Council and of the Council of Ministers.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu's entourage includes, among others: Comrades Berhanu Baye, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member; Dr Feleke Gedle Giorgis, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member; Tesfaye Wolde Selassie, minister of public and national security and COPWE Central Committee member; Mengistu Gemechu, COPWE Central Committee member and special aide to the comrade chairman and Tekola Dejene, first vice-secretary of the National Revolutionary Economic Development and Central Planning Supreme Council and COPWE Central Committee member.

SUMMIT HELD BETWEEN LIBYA, ETHIOPIA, PDRY LEADERS

17 Aug Morning Session

LD172124 Tripoli JANA in English 1716 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Aden, 17 Aug (JANA)--A trilateral summit meeting was held this morning between the revolution's leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi; the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, president of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and prime minister, Mr 'Ali Nasir Muhammad; and the president of the Provisional Ethiopian Administrative Military Council, Mengistu Haile Mariam.

In a speech delivered at the beginning of the meeting, President Muhammad condemned the U.S. imperialist conspiracy for the assassination of [as received] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdafi. He also condemned the repeated Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon, Palestinian refugee camps and Iraq's nuclear installation, and attempts at weakening Syria's steadfastness.

The Yemeni president cricitzed American moves calling for the formation of a Rapid Deployment Force in the region. He further condemned threats made of using force against the Jamahiriyah, exercising pressure against Democratic Yemen and Ethiopia, and continuous scare tactics used against oil-producing countries aimed at the blackmailing and final liquidation of liberation movements there.

President Muhammad said the present meeting of the three revolutionary leaders is an historic gathering taking place in Arab, African and international political circumstances that take a special form of importance in enhancing friendly cooperation against imperialist, Zionist and reactionary challenges. He said the Aden meeting falls within the framework of efforts for developing bilateral relations and friendly cooperation that have become entrenched by joint struggle against reaction and conspiracies directed at all three countries.

The Yemeni president ended his speech by affirming that the meeting is designed to seek methods of providing security and stability in the region that is currently threatened by military moves and bases, reaction in Egypt and the Sudan, and the dangers of world racism and terrorism, led by the United States.

In his speech, the Ethiopian president affirmed the importance of the summit meeting in supporting joint cooperation between the three revolutions. He also praised the Great Al-Fatah Revolution's solidarity against all imperialist conspiracies aimed at curtailing man's freedom. He said: "History is witness to the genuineness of our peoples' struggle against fascist colonialism...the younger generations in our three countries will stand united against the conspiracies of enemies, especially the Camp David conspiracy aimed at curtailing the freedom of our people..."

President Mengistu condemned the establishment of U.S. bases and creation of the Rapid Deployment Force. He said the three revolutions in the Jamahiriyah, Ethiopia and Democratic Yemen will resist these military bases and all imperialist conspiracies.

The morning session continued for 90 minutes and was adjourned at 1300 hours, Jamahiriyah local time.

Evening Session

EA172130 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The tripartite summit of Democratic Yemen, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and socialist Ethiopia resumed its session at the Presidency this evening in same spirit of enthusiasm and fraternal sentiments of struggle with which it began this morning.

Brother Salim Salim Muhammad, member of the YSP Central Committee and foreign minister, the meeting's official spokesman, declared that at its evening session the meeting discussed aspects of cooperation between the three countries in the political and economic fields. A number of the brother ministers also took part in this session. Brother Salim Salim Muhammad added that various working committees had been formed in the light of the meeting with the object of drawing up agreements to be signed later.

'ALI NASIR MEETS WITH PFLO, FATAH DELEGATIONS

EA171244 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received today a PFLO delegation led by Brother 'Abd al-Hafiz Juman, member of the front's Central Executive Committee. At their meeting they exchanged views on developments in the region and methods of strengthening cohesiveness and militant cooperation between the Yemeni and Omani revolutions, as well as developing of fraternal relations between the Yemeni and Omani peoples in their confrontation with the dangers threatening them.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also received the Palestinian delegation led by Brother Khalil al-Wazir, Abu Jihad, member of the Central Committee of the national liberation movement Fatah. The latest developments in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas and the political and military moves of the joint Lebanese and Palestinian forces to confront and resist Zionist aggression against the Palestinian revolution and the fraternal Lebanese people [were discussed]. They also exchanged views on developments in the Arab and international areas. This meeting was attended by Brother Col 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, member of the Political Bureau, first deputy premier and minister of local government, and Mahmud Ahmad an-Najashi, member of the Central Committee and (?representative) of the Central Committee.

BRIEFS

OMAN-PRC AGREEMENT--An agreement was signed on 15 August in Beijing between the Sultanate of Oman and the PRC on cultural and health matters and cooperation in the field of information. The ten-article agreement will open new horizons for cooperation between Oman and the PRC in the fields of culture, education, science, health, sports, information and agriculture. The agreement is considered as a turning point in the declared and existing cooperation between the Omani and PRC Governments. [Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Aug 81 EA]

TURKISH AMBASSADOR TO QATAR--Qatari heir apparent Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifhah Al Thani today received in his office in Ad-Dawhah Palace the credentials of the new Turkish ambassador to Qatar, Hasan (Helis) Uner. The new ambassador conveyed the Turkish president's regards and compliments to the amir, the heir apparent and the Qatari people. [Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 Aug 81 GF]

SAUDI-SOUTH KOREA AGREEMENT--Saudi Arabia and South Korea have signed an agreement for facilitating communications and cooperation between the Jidda Islamic Port and the Korean An-shon Port and to exchange of expertise. [Riyadh SPA in English 1902 GMT 16 Aug 81 LD]

UAE INDUSTRIALIZATION--It has been decided to allocate 27.4 billion dirhams for petrochemical, chemical and petroleum projects. This constitutes 54.8 percent of all investments in the UAE's industrial development plan. It aims at increasing the amount of industrial production from 6.9 billion dirhams in 1980 to 24.1 billion dirhams in 1985 at an annual rate of 28.4 percent. [Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 16 Aug 81 p 1 GF]

RADIO NOTES END OF U.S. BAN ON AIRCRAFT TO ISRAEL

NC180948 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Aug 81

[18 August "News Analysis" by Anwar Zhair on resumption of fighter planes supplies to Israel--read by announcer]

[Text] After 68 days of anxiety and waiting, Israeli officials are now feeling more secure vis-a-vis the U.S.-Israeli relations in general and the handover of 14 F-16 and 2 F-15 planes in particular.

Yesterday, Alexander Haig announced at a press conference that U.S. President Reagan had decided to lift the ban on supplying these fighter planes to Israel. This announcement was made after a meeting of the National Security Council which was chaired by Reagan. The U.S. administration had decided to stop shipping these 16 fighters after the Israeli raid against Iraq's Tammuz nuclear station on 7 June and the 17 July Israeli air raid against Beirut.

The U.S. administration made the release of these planes conditional on resolving the situation in Lebanon and the Middle East and the outcome of Philip Habib's mission, which culminated in the cease-fire between Israel and the PLO.

The U.S. secretary of state explained yesterday that the changes which occurred in the Middle East during the past few weeks would allow the resumption of shipping military planes to Israel. Despite the Israeli officials' statements to the effect that the decision to lift the ban, which will lead to restoring the strong U.S.-Israeli relations to their natural state, these statements, according to observers, are to be taken as mere acts of courtesy. The observers feel that the Israeli officials, who might have felt a certain anxiety at the beginning with regard to the ban, were resting assured--on the other hand--that the U.S. administration would not abandon them. These viewpoints were supported by Alexander Haig's statements yesterday, when he said that the decision to ban the shipment of fighter planes to Israel--despite the resentment it aroused among Israeli officials--did not affect the traditional U.S.-Israeli realtions in the least.

MAY DESCRIBES FUTURE U.S. USE OF RA'S BANAS BASE

NC1 2206 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2125 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA)--In an exclusive report from Washington, the weekly newspaper MAY, in its issue that will be published tomorrow, Monday, says that President Ronald Reagan's administration will ask the Congress shortly to appropriate $106 million to repair and equip the Egyptian base of Ra's Banas on the Red Sea coast in the first year of the plan to provide the United States facilities to stop any foreign attack on the Arab Gulf states.

MAY says that Egypt will undertake the base repair and preparation operations so that it will be ready should any Arab or Islamic country be endangered and ask U.S. help. The paper says that the agreement between Egypt and the United States provides that the Americans will have a permanent presence in the Egyptian base and that this presence is limited to temporary training and preparations.

'ALI TERMS SHARON'S WEST BANK POLICY 'ENCOURAGING'

NC171625 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1603 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Aug (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has described the measures which Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon is going to take in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as encouraging steps to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinians in the occupied territories. 'Ali expressed his hope that these measures will be followed by other measures to ease the suffering.

He said that in two memorandums to the Israeli Government in 1979 and 1980 Egypt had proposed the adoption of measures to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinians in the occupied territories, with a view to establishing confidence.

DEPUTY CRITICIZES AS-SADAT POLICIES, PEACE TREATY

PM170954 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Aug 81 p 3

[Interview granted by Mumtaz Nassar, member of the Egyptian People's Assembly and of parliamentary opposition bloc, to Sana' as-Salid in Cairo--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What are the conditons that might help Egypt to overcome its present isolation in the Arab world despite the fact that events in the area, particularly the behavior of the Arab countries, do not seem to encourage Egypt to do so?

[Answer] The solution lies entirely in Arab solidarity. It is up to As-Sadat to restore Arab solidarity, as he did in 1973. We have called for Arab solidarity but the effect of such a call is still weak. Up to this moment the Egyptian Government refuses to take the steps that will lead to the restoring of Arab solidarity. For our part, we still believe that Arab solidarity is inevitable and a matter of destiny both for Egypt and the Arab countries. As the head is to the body, so Egypt is to the Arab countries. Egypt alone cannot go forward and the Arab countries cannot make war or peace without Egypt.

[Question] What probably prevents Egypt from taking an initiative for solidarity with the Arabs is the attitude of the Arabs themselves. How can Egypt implement the principle of Arab solidarity in the present state of fragmentation?

[Answer] It would be possible if the Egyptian leadership were to create the proper atmosphere for the mobilization of all the Arab nation's capabilities and for bringing about an Arab consensus on joint action, even if this should necessitate the Egyptian political command's making a direct approach to all the Arab countries. An initiative by As-Sadat toward his [Arab] cousins is a thousand times better than his initiative toward Israel.

[Question] It is said that Egypt does not like to risk being affronted by taking an initiative that might not find a response.

[Answer] It cannot be said that it would be an affront to Egypt's dignity to launch an Arab initiative. The fateful links between us and all the Arab countries is an established fact and confirmed in our Egyptian constitution. Egypt is part of the Arab nation and pan-Arabism is a matter of destiny, fate and of the future. What might contribute to the success of such an Arab initiative would be the immediate freezing of relations with Israel, particularly since international law permits us to do so, and the repudiation of the implementation of the treaty, because the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, with its restrictions and negative aspects, was imposed on us.

[Question] This means that your attitude toward Camp David has not changed despite the gains Egypt achieved through it, gains represented in the return of 2/3 of Sinai and the expected return of the remaining third by April 1982. What are the restrictions you are talking about?

[Answer] As I have said from the beginning, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty does not achieve for Egypt and the Arabs what we were hoping for and, therefore, we have rejected it as a whole and in its specifics. On the contrary, the Camp David accords have given Israel much: They have given it the opportunity to grow at the expense of the countries of the area.

Therefore, I urge every loyal citizen to reconsider the provisions of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and to demand the removal of the restrictions it incorporates which violate our rights and the rights of the Arab and which even violate Egypt's sovereignty over its own territories. It is inconceivable by any standards that a liberated Sinai should remain subject to restrictions which, in my view, are tantamount to occupation. These restrictions concern the demilitarization and the indefintie stationing in it of international forces without Egypt having any say as to when these forces should leave. This is in addition to the commitment to normalize relations with Israel, which is a violation of Egypt's sovereignty. I have not seen any world peace treaty of the past 10 centuries in which a contracting party is committed to this with an enemy whose enmity ceased with peace means a great deal for Egypt's sovereignty and constitutes a severe restriction. [sentence as published] Indeed Israel has sought normal relations with Egypt--the biggest Arab state--so as to break through the Arab boycott which almost destroyed it.

[Question] While you denounce the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, the Egyptian Government asserts that 99.9 percent of the Egyptian people approved of it.

[Answer] This is not true. The fact that the Egyptian people do not now accept the so-called normalization with Israel proves that the opposition was right in what it felt. The people have not yet forgotten that every home has lost someone martyred. In fact, Israel is seeking normalization in its own interest and without regard to Egypt's interests and its solidarity with the Arab countries. What is even worse is that this state of affairs has made Israel more intransigent and arrogant, which is evident from a series of blatantly aggressive measures, the latest being the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

[Question] If one compares the Zionist danger and the communist danger, which of the two is more ominous for the area?

[Answer] The Zionist danger is the more immeidate one, although this does not negate the existence of the communist danger. The Zionist danger is paramount because communist infiltration, although it may be close at hand in a neighboring country, will not find a place in our area if we apply full democracy and remove corruption and deviation inside our country.

[Question] How can Egypt strengthen its national security and the security of the area in a situation like this?

[Answer] Through commitment to the principle of positive nonalignment in its foreign policy and through dealing evenhandedly with the two superpowers, and not giving either of them bases or military facilities on Egypt's territories. Military facilities in the modern sense are merely mobile bases. Bases and facilities will involve us in problems of conflict between the two superpowers in our area, something which we can do without. The security of Egypt and of the area can be achieved only by the hands of its own people and not through a U.S. force stationed on our land. It is the sons of the area alone who can fill any security vacuum in the area. Moreover, any attack on any Arab state places upon Egypt obligations provided for in the Joint Arab Defense Pact and dictated by Arab nationalism, on the grounds that Egypt is part of the Arab nation and, therefore, must repel such an attack with all the capabilities and strength at its disposal.

[Question] What is your view regarding U.S. participation in the peace force that will be stationed in Sinai to supervise the final Israeli withdrawal in April 1982?

[Answer] I do not approve the presence of forces in Sinai from either of the superpowers, for each of them has its plans and designs on our country and the Israeli occupation should not be replaced by a U.S. or Soviet occupation.

SHARON'S VISIT TO EGYPT REPORTEDLY POSTPONED

NC171520 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Aug (MENA)--An official source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry said that it has been agreed to postpone the visit that Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon was scheduled to make to Alexandria from 19 through 21 August. The source said that it has been decided that the meetings of the general Egyptian-Israeli committee concerned with discussing the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the remaining part of Sinai would be held under Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon next week after Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's visit to Alexandria.

GHALI VIEWES LATIN AMERICAN SINAI FORCE MEMBERSHIP

NC172240 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Cairo, 17 Aug (MENA)--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has pointed out that Egypt views the participation of Latin American countries in the peacekeeping force in Sinai as a positive element that contributes to the achievement of peace and stability in the Middle East.

In an interview with the Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM, which will be published Tuesday, Dr Ghali revealed that the rejecting front states had tried by all means to use promises and warnings, enticements and threats against the Latin American countries to prevent them from participating in the peacekeeping force. But they rejected these attempts because they are eager to maintain their dignity and the independence of their will--they do not accept such pressures.

Dr Butrus Ghali, who recently made a 1 month tour of Latin America, explained why Egypt has concentrated on the participation of the Latin American countries in the peacekeeping force. He said that many of these states had previously participated in UN peacekeeping forces and have valuable experience in this field. The geographic distance of these states from the conflict area, the fact that many of them abide by the principle of non-alignment, and the fact that they maintain good relations with all the parties in the Middle East problem will remove any suspicions from them.

Asked why the African states have not been invited to participate in the peacekeeping force, Dr Ghali explained that Egypt prefers not to invite the African states to participate in the force, because these states broke off their diplomatic relations with Israel and their participation in this force would require the resumption of these relations. Therefore, any attempt to invite them to participate could be interpreted as mediation by Egypt between Israel and the African states to resume their relations. Dr Ghali said: This is definitely not an Egyptian role.

Regarding the participation of the European states in the peacekeeping force, Dr Ghali explained that the majority of the European states are linked to alliances, whether it is NATO or the Warsaw Pact, and Egypt thinks that the participation of these states in the force could raise some questions.

Dr Ghali explained that the participation of the Latin American countries in the peacekeeping force was not the main purpose of his tour of Latin America, but he took advantage of the tour to discuss the importance of the formation of the force. He said that despite the importance of the participation of these states in the peacekeeping force he was eager to point out that even if these states decide for any reason not to participate in the force, this will not affect the bilateral relations between them and Egypt.

MILITARY COURT SENTENCES LIBYAN-BACKED SUBVERSIVES

NC171213 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1105 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Excerpt] Alexandria, 17 Aug (MENA)--The Supreme Military Court in Alexandria passed its verdict in the subversion and conspiracy case in which Libyan intelligence agents 'Abd al-Hadi Mayhub, 'Abd al-'Ati Da'bas and 'Abd ar-Rasul Sha'ban stood accused. The verdict is life imprisonment at hard labor for the three accused and fines of 1,000 pounds each.

The indictment--which was announced by the court president, Brig Gen Mustafa Duwaydar--states that the accused had agreed with representatives of the Libyan regime to carry out several subversive actions in Egypt, including blowing up a gasoline filling station in Matruh with three explosive charges which they planted in various parts of the station. They also placed a jerrycan full of gasoline, without cover, next to one of the charges to cause a big fire that would threaten the area surrounding the station.

Brig Gen Mustafa Duwaydar said that the accused confessed the details of these incidents during the military prosecution's investigations and that they received large sums of money, before and after implementing this operation, from the commander of the Libyan intelligence in return for carrying out this criminal operation.

The Supreme Military Court in Alexandria held its session today. It consisted of Brig Gen Mustafa Duwaydar as president and Brig Gen Muhammad Faris and Col Mahmud Kamil al-Qadhdhafi as members. Chief of the Military Prosecution Brig Gen Salih Mahmud Salih and the prosecution's assistant secretary, Ahmad Hamid, attended.

AS-SADAT ORDERS ANALYSIS OF SECTARIAN INCIDENTS

NC172158 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2040 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Aug (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat has called for the preparation of a full analysis on the various sectarian incidents which took place in Egypt in the past few years and the results of the investigation into the Az-Zawiyah al-Hamra' incidents.

The newspaper AL-AHRAM, which reports this in Tuesday's issue, says that in the light of this analysis new decisions and measures will be taken to protect national unity.

President as-Sadat is scheduled to call for a joint meeting of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council, where he will speak about sectarian strife in Egypt, the responsibility of all the people to protect their national unity and social security and the measures which the state must take to protect this unity.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 432

JN171710 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Aug (INA)--The Iraqi forces pounded Iranian troop concentrations in the areas of Abadan, Mimak, Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb and Khafajiyah [Susangerd], killing 51. The Iraqi forces also destroyed one personnel carrier, nine vehicles, four guns, one excavator, five stockpiles of hardware, one observation post and one tank. This was stated in Communique No 432 issued by the Armed Forces General Command this evening on the military activities against the Iranian enemy during the past 24 hours.

The text of the communique is as follows:

Communique No 432 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units pounded enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan area, killing 21 and destroying 1 armored personnel carrier, 5 vehicles, 2 guns, 1 excavator, 5 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post.
B. An enemy concentration was sighted in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd. Our units pound the enemy concentration, killing 10 and destroying 2 vehicles and 2 guns.
C. Eight killed in the Sumar area.
D. Seven killed in the Mehran area.
E. Four killed in the Shush area.
F. One killed and one vehicle destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
G. One vehicle destroyed in the Khafajiyah area. Our helicopters also destroyed one tank in the same area and returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 51 killed and 1 personnel carrier, 9 vehicles, 4 guns, 1 excavator, 5 stockpiles of hardware, 1 observation post and 1 tank.

II. It has been confirmed that the enemy's losses in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin as a result of our units' activities on 14 August were 10 killed and 3 excavators, 1 vehicle carrying hardware, 1 gun and 1 observation post destroyed.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 12 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles, two guns, one mortar and one armored car damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 August 1981

KURDISTAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY ISSUES STATEMENT

JN171948 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Dear listeners: The final statement issued by the Central Committee of the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] follows:

What makes us proud in these delicate circumstances in the history of the Kurdish Liberation Movement and of the glorious 26 May revolution--circumstances that followed the vacuum caused by the departure of the immortal Barzani from the Kurdish leadership--is that we have successfully managed to hold the second meeting of the KDP Central Committee from 21 July to 1 August 1981. This meeting was a positive turning point compared to previous Central Committee meetings. Since the convocation of the ninth congress on 4 November 1981 [as heard], our party and revolution have been making big strides in political, military, organizational, financial and administrative affairs. Furthermore, our party is committed to a sound liberation policy compatible with the party's new course, program and its ninth congress resolutions. Our party is also committed to a certain extent to the law of the Kurdish revolutionary army [as heard] and to benefiting from the positive lessons and examples of the September revolution. All of this has created suitable grounds for the party to play a positive role in the Kurdish Liberation Movement in Iraq and in the Iraqi National Movement. The Kurdish Liberation Movement is a part of the world liberation movement. It has revived hope and confidence among the people of Kurdistan in general and in Iraq's Kurdistan in particular. These people expect us to play a leading role in saving them from the despotism of the rotten regime in Baghdad.

The Central Committee has unanimously renewed its confidence in the Political Bureau and its leadership, which is committed to its full responsibilities toward our party's strategy and tactics.

The Central Committee has accurately assessed the objective circumstances of our Kurdish people, revolution and party. The committee has confirmed a historical fact: We must eliminate our shortcomings and elevate our [word indistinct] to the suitable and objective level.

To complete all of these enormous tasks, the Central Committee is determined to intensify efforts to pool all the national, democratic and Islamic forces which oppose Saddam's fascist regime in a broad national front [word indistinct] the Iraqi democratic national and patriotic front. This front will spare no efforts in confronting the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary designs and the 'Aflaq-Saddam bloody regime. This regime has launched and continues to wage the biggest imperialist war against the Islamic Republic of Iran, causing destructive losses to both the Iraqi and Iranian peoples.

The KDP Central Committee has reiterated our party's faith in the necessity of further bolstering friendly relations with the glorious revolution of the Iranian peoples under the leader Imam Khomeyni as well as with the liberation movements in the region, particularly with the Arab national liberation movement and, most of all, with the Palestinian people's revolution led by the PLO. The Central Committee has also reiterated the importance of bolstering friendly relations with the progressive Arab regimes of the Syrian Arab Republic under the leadership of struggler Hafiz al-Asad [words indistinct] against world imperialism, Zionism and the reactionary regimes and against all their plots and designs, particularly against the Camp David agreements, which are directed against the Arab liberation movement and the Arab progressive regimes one after the other in order to tighten the hegemony of world imperialism over the Middle East.

The Central Committee has adopted numerous new political, military, organizational and [word indistinct] resolutions. It has renewed the vows to our people, to the Iraqi people, to our comrades, to the steadfast peshmerga of the Kurdish revolutionary army, to the pure souls of the Kurdistan martyrs and to the immortal Barzani to [words indistinct] of the immoral action committed by Iraqi intelligence and other Saddamist agents in Iranian Kurdestan against the sacred remains of the immortal Barzani. The Central Committee has asserted that the criminals will not go unpunished.

The Central Committee has vowed to remain worthy of the faith entrusted in it by our people and to continue the struggle at the head of the party and the revolution's command until the toppling of Saddam's fascist regime and the establishment of a coalition democratic regime under which the bold Iraqi people would achieve its democratic rights and under which the suppressed Kurdish people would be able to achieve genuine autonomy in order to further strengthen the Arab-Kurdish brotherhood and to continue the joint struggle against plots of imperialism and Zionism.

Sure victory for the revolutionary struggle of the Iraqi people, the Arabs, the Kurds and the minorities. Death, disgrace and shame to Saddam's bloody regime and to its overlord--U.S. imperialism. A thousand greetings to the pure souls of the martyrs of Kurdistan and Iraq. A thousand greetings to the pure soul of the immortal Barzani. Disgrace and shame to Saddam's regime and to its agents in Iranian Kurdistan for their immoral crime against the remains of the immortal Barzani. Long live the struggle of the nationalist, democratic and Islamic forces in Iraq for the formation of broad nationalist front encompassing all the nationalist parties opposed to Saddam's regime and for the destruction of this regime.

[Signed] The Political Bureau of the Kurdistan Democratic Party--Iraq, 12 August 1981

KURDISTAN REVOLUTIONARY PARTY ISSUES STATEMENT

JN162112 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] The Kurdistan Revolutionary Party [KRP] has renewed its pledge to the party and revolution headed by President Saddam Husayn to forge ahead toward building a prosperous Iraq under which our Kurdish people will enjoy their legitimate and national rights within the framework of autonomous rule.

In a statement issued today on the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the KRP, the KRP Political Bureau hailed the tremendous gains in Iraq following the great 17 July revolution under the Ba'th Party. The July revolution has developed Iraq in all domains. This prompted world imperialism, led by the United States and Zionism and their agents in the area, to motivate the racist regime of charlatan Khomeyni to launch an oppressive war against revolutionary Iraq, and also to instruct the racist Zionist regime to strike at the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

The statement asserts that our revolutionary march is forging ahead toward a bright future under the Ba'th Party and President-leader Saddam Husayn.

The KRP strongly denounced the annihilation campaigns launched by the Iranian executioners against the Kurdish people in Kordestan in Iran as well as against the other Iranian peoples. The KRP called for supporting the struggle of these peoples against the racist regime that is dominating the Iranian peoples.

The KRP added that at a time when the sons of the Kurdish people in Kurdistan are subjected to persecution and deprivation and the dictatorship of the racist Iranian regime, the sons of our Kurdish people in Iraq are waging a ceaseless struggle for the sake of entrenching and developing their autonomous rule, which was a precious fruit of the heroic 17 July revolution under the Ba'th Party.

The KRP statement praised the successive victories being scored by Iraq's heroes against the racist Persian for the sake of preserving the nation's dignity, honor and sovereignty over its land and waters under the leadership of the national liberation leader President Saddam Husayn.

MINISTER SCORES DELIVERY OF F-15'S TO ISRAEL

NC181214 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Tourism Minister Marwan Hamadah today received U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Robert Dillon on a protocol visit during which the general situation in the country was reviewed in light of the new local, regional and international political developments. Following the meeting, Minister Hamadah said: The rules of protocol did not prevent me, in my capacity as a minister and as a citizen, from expressing my strong resentment of and profound regret over the U.S. decision to deliver F-15 aircraft to Israel.

REPORTAGE ON BEIRUT MILITARY ACTIVITIES 17 AUG

NC171330 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] In the southern suburb acute tension continues to prevail despite the fact that the clashes escalate at times and are relatively calm at other times. In the past hours Amal members and communists launched attacks against each other in the entire Ash-Shiyah area, in which both sides used tank guns, mortars and rockets, an indication that more than one party has joined the battles.

The clashes did not stop despite intervention by the deterrent forces. At the time, when battles were raging in all areas of the southern suburbs, they receded in the inner areas, particularly in the areas of At-Tayr and Madi, leaving the Ash-Shiyah-Galerie Sim'an road comparatively passable.

The results of the clashes are not yet known as exchanges of fire continue. However, it has been reported that scores of persons have been killed or wounded, including 2 killed and 12 wounded on the Amal side and 4 killed and 8 wounded on the communists' side. It was reported later that the two sides are engaged in mutual kidnapping operations in the Al-Awza'i area. The areas of Al-Hadath, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and particularly the areas close to the scenes of the clashes have not been spared some rockets and artillery shells. A cease-fire was set for 1400 today, but the security committee has not yet been able to bring this about. Armed men have caused tension in the capital's commercial areas as far as Al-Barjawi, where the residential areas--particularly Al-Yasu'iyah area--have been subjected to shells, mortars and sniper fire. Meanwhile, the Sodeco Road has remained closed, whereas movement on the Port Road has been risky because of sniper fire. Despite this, 7 ships have entered and 8 ships have left the port while 14 others are waiting to unload their cargoes by available means.

High Casualties Reported

NC171756 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Excerpt] The clashes between Amal and the communists in the southern suburb of Beirut have resulted in the death of about 20 people and the wounding of 80 others. Six were killed in the ranks of the Arab Deterrent Forces, including a second lieutenant; 8 killed and 12 wounded in the ranks of Amal; and 4 killed and 8 wounded in the ranks of the communists. This is in addition to casualties among the civilians.

ADF Restores Calm

NC171843 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Security sources have reported a short time ago that Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] have finished taking their assigned positions in the areas of the southern suburb, the scene of clashes between two local organizations last night and this morning.

These forces have begun operating patrols in order to maintain security and ensure the return of stability and reassurance to these areas.

The sources said that so far no security setbacks have been reported on the contact lines and that a situation of cautious calm continues to prevail, interrupted only by some sporadic bursts of fire, particularly in the commercial area and in the areas of Bisharah al-Khuri and Sodeco where the road is still closed.

FIVE MURDERED IN BEIRUT AUTOMOBILE AMBUSH

NC161420 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Excerpt] At 0935 today automatic fire was opened on a Mercedes in the vicinity of the Continental-Carlton Hotel. The occupants of the car, Ilyas al-Hanash [name as heard, presumably Ilyas Hannush] known as Al-Hannush, his son, his daughter and his two companions Milad 'Abduh and 'Abd al-Majid Safa--the latter a Palestinian and a member of Fatah--were killed. The daughter of 'Abd al-Majid was wounded.

Immediately afterwards armed elements cordoned off the scene of the incident and a shroud of secrecy was imposed with regard to the perpetrators. The prime minister visited the area and expressed his regret about the incident. It later transpired that the crime was committed by gunmen who had been in another car pursuing Al-Hanash's car.

SAUDIS AGREE TO AL-WAZZAN REQUEST FOR ARAB SUMMIT

NC172015 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Telephone dispatch by radio correspondent 'Isam 'Abdallah from At-Ta'if on Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's talks with Senior Saudi officials--recorded]

[Excerpt] The official working visit of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan ended at 2000 [1800 GMT] today with the dinner banquet which His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia, held in his summer palace in At-Ta'if in honor of Prime Minister al-Wazzan. The banquet was attended by a number of princes, ministers and senior figures.

Regarding the second round of talks, which was held at the guest palace, it can be said that it achieved the desired aim. Saudi Arabia has agreed in principle to Lebanon's request to convene an Arab summit conference. His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister and head of the National Guard, told us that the kingdom approved all of Lebanon's requests, and that there is no ambiguity in the kingdom's position on the Lebanese crisis. The kingdom, he said, has exerted and will continue to exert efforts to alleviate the suffering of the Lebanese people.

During this round of talks Prime Minister al-Wazzan gave a full explanation of our state of affairs and the dangers which could face us as Lebanese and as Arabs in the event this situation continues. Prime Minister al-Wazzan also expressed fears about repeated Israeli raids and aggressions which would torpedo the cease-fire and cause repercussions much greater than those of the recent raid.

Al-Wazzan sensed a determination by the Saudi officials to make the committee's work succeed.

REPORT ON AL-WAZZAN MONDAY MORNING INTERVIEW

NC161740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] In an interview he has granted to the English-language weekly magazine MONDAY MORNING, which will appear in Beirut tomorrow, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan answered all questions on the subject of dealings with Israel, the observation of the Lebanese ports to prevent infiltration of arms and the steps that should be taken to gather the arms.

Referring to the Lebanese-Palestinian relations and his recent meeting with Yasir 'Arafat, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said that whatever shocks they are subejcted to, the Lebanese-Palestinian relations will remain strong. However, these relations will become stronger and more effective if they are governed by the charters and agreements signed in this respect.

Regarding securing an air defense network for Lebanon, his excellency said that this matter is dictated by the principle of legitimate self-defense and does not constitute any change in the overall Lebanese policy.

Asked about the truth of the reports that he has discussed the need to establish joint control of all the Lebanese ports or a joint force to guard the shores with Syrian officials, the prime minister replied: Such a discussion has not taken place. This matter falls within the next steps that must or can be taken as soon as the process of restoring normalcy to the country begins. This subject, however, is a basic and vital matter, and we hope that the legitimate authority will, as soon as possible and through any of the forces under its control and in accordance with the exigencies of the situation and circumstances, be able to impose its authority on all the Lebanese ports and put an end to all the regrettable practices that take place through the ports and that do extreme harm to the supreme national moral, security and economic interests. We hope, meanwhile, that the legitimate authority will be able as soon as possible to ensure security and protection for all the Lebanese territories, including guarding the Lebanese shores.

On the steps that are required to enable the Lebanese Front to prove that it is honoring its obligation to stop dealing with Israel, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: The basis of the subject is that the relations with Israel must be cut off in practice and not only by words. This is stipulated in the Lebanese working paper. The declaration on the resolution of this subject has been a required basic stand and is tantamount to a first step which must be followed by other steps. I do not believe that it is advantageous to enter into the details of this subject. However, a relationship of any kind and under any framework must be ended completely and decisively, and this matter must be maintained continuously. Any retreat at any time and under any circumstances would upset the Lebanese and Arab equations and, consequently, create circumstances and situations which could only be confronted by a firmness that is commensurate with their seriousness on both the Lebanese and Arab levels.

I believe that every loyal Lebanese must inevitably view Israel as an inveterate enemy who covets the land and waters as well as the human and economic Lebanese role. The consideration of Israel as an enemy does not fall within the framework of showing courtesy or kindness in attitudes toward any side or group. But it is in our supreme national interest as long as Israel is usurping the territories and maintaining its expansionist and aggressive aims and its ambition to assume the Lebanese role.

Asked if it is true that he discussed with the Syrian leaders the question of the Lebanese Front surrendering the heavy weapons with which Israel has supplied it, Prime Minister al-Wazzan replied: This matter was not discussed. It is a detailed matter which will be dealt with eventually. What must be stressed at this point is that we are now in the process of finding radical remedies to achieve accord and start the march of restoring normalcy.

In the final analysis, this matter requires the collection of arms, all the arms, irrespective of their source, from any illegal force and in accordance with detailed plans that will be drawn up for this purpose.

Question: Many people asked for the publication of the document which Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil handed to President Sarkis so various sides will be able to assess it. Why has this request not yet been met, and when do you expect the document to become public?

Answer: The document was put in the hands of President Sarkis. The followup committee has seen it, particularly the part on the subject of halting dealings [with Israel]. The committee regarded this as a positive step representing the required statement and, consequently, needing only action. This is what everybody is waiting for. The followup committee is delegated by the highest responsible Arab body--the Arab summit--and by the Arab foreign ministers conference. The assessment that satisfies them [the Arab leaders and foreign ministers] must also satisfy all the parties concerned with this subject. As for the declaration on the contents of the document, this depends on the circumstances, bearing in mind that the followup committee's statement contained a relevant phrase that was almost verbatim.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan was asked: Prelimina y signs indicate that the Lebanese Front is not prepared to take the required steps as a proof of its honoring its commitment to cut off relations with Israel. If these steps are not taken, is there a possibility that the national dialogue will begin in September, as the Arab followup committee has promised?

Answer: We want all the Lebanese factions to follow the sound line, particularly the adoption of the practical national stand toward Israel. Consequently, we hope that these signs, which you have mentioned, are not as you mentioned. I would like to remind you once more of the contents of my answer to part of the first question. The continuation of relations with Israel is a matter that is rejected on the Lebanese and Arab levels. Consequently, we hope very much that the national eagerness to end this subject within objective, calm and understanding frameworks will meet with the required success. Undobutedly, the continuation of an unjustified relationship with Israel for any reason whatsoever will render the accord process more difficult. However, the march toward national accord is the destiny of the Lebanese and it must not be transcended or delayed indefinitedly. This march must be started even without any side that might fail to join it or abandon its uncontested principles. I would like to repeat in this respect that all the Lebanese must abandon all the tortuous roads and embark on the process of accord without having to wait for national unanimity on the basis that this might involve making numerous concessions in more than one field. However, there can be no bargaining on the subject of dealing with Israel, because it is one of the incontrovertible national matters on both the Lebanese and Arab levels and requires that everybody should have sufficient vigilance to realize all the basis, background and results of this vital subject.

Question: Does the followup committee intend to concentrate on national accord when it meets here in September or will its discussions also include the south, as the Chamber of Deputies speaker is asking?

Answer: Despite the fact that the Arab followup committee is at the disposal of the president of the republic to help Lebanon in achieving national accord and start the process of restoring normalcy to the country, the question of the south actually imposes itself whenever any subject or item that falls within the jurisdiction of the followup committee is dealt with. Any march begins with a first step. Intricate problems are solved one by one.

South Lebanon is the climax of the Lebanese problem and the core of its tragedy. In our opinion, a cure to the homeland lies on remedying the causes of the disease. If curing a disease in any part of it proves to difficult, it does not mean that the disease must be ignored, especially when the overall healings and recoveries contribute to the curing of the disease in the south. The attainment of national accord would give Lebanon and the Lebanese effective impetus and chances. Solutions cannot be found at present for many reasons, most important of which are the disagreements and divisions among the Lebanese. When the Lebanese lack one voice and one stand, the chances of achieveing a solution to major problems are nil.

Question: Can you confirm or deny the reports which said that a plan is being discussed for the deployment of the UN forces or the Lebanese Army forces in Tyre and other areas outside the area of the UN forces?

Answer: What can be confirmed is that Lebanon is making efforts and adopting stands and demands in all local, Arab and international forums, calling for making it possible to exercise its sovereignty over all the Lebanese territories, including the entire southern area--this genuine Lebanese area--which destiny and circumstances caused it to suffer and to be subjected to the dangers of occupation and invasion. It is no longer permissible on the human, national and pan-Arab levels that this area should continue in this tragic situation which necessitates a serious intervention by the Arab brothers through a unified Arab strategy in which Lebanon will undoubtedly play its national part in full.

Question: What are the subjects you discussed with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat recently? Was the meeting a step in the direction of establishing closer Palestinian-Lebanese relations? Do you expect a meeting to take place between Sarkis and 'Arafat in the near future?

Prime Minister al-Qazzan answered: The Palestianian presence on Lebanese territory constantly creates subjects which must be discussed and tackled. The need for a meeting for this purpose increased following the Israeli raids and the serious developments which recently occurred in the Lebanese arena--in the south and in Beirut--and following the moves that are currently taking place in more than one field and which aim, in one way or another, at dealing with the Middle East situation, particularly the Palestinian issue and the Lebanese tragedy. No matter how many shocks they are subjected to, Lebanese-Palestinian relations will remain strong, because they are linked to a national cause that has deep roots, objectives and aims. However, these relations will certainly become stronger and more effective if they are governed by the charters, pledges and agreements that have been signed. The relations should be balanced to strengthen and consecrate everything that is good for Lebanon and the Palestinian cause and to abolish and eliminate everything that is harmful to Lebanon and the Palestinian cause.

SA'D HADDAD 16 AUGUST ADDRESS TO LEBANESE

NC161354 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1010 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Speech by free Lebanon Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad to the Lebanese people on 16 August--live or recorded]

[Text] Brother Lebanese: The situation here is somewhat quiet. From time to time the terrorists try to violate the cease-fire or provoke us by firing a shell here and a shell there so that we will retailiate. Until now we have tried to control our nerves in order to maintain the quiet, hoping that the world will understand that there is no place for the terrorists in Lebanon after today.

At any rate, everyone must know that during this cease-fire the terrorists are reorganizing their ranks and brining in more weapons--destructive weapons--and ammunition and establishing fortifications. There is no doubt that when they complete these preparations they will return to the old course--the course of terrorism and the shelling of villages and the peaceful citizens.

However, we are watching them. We have chosen this course, the course of serving Lebanon, resisting any occupation and trying to expel the occupiers from Lebanon. For this reason, we will not be taken by surprise when they reopen their fire at us or at others.

There is another point: The cease-fire must not only affect the south; it must cover all parts of Lebanon. We are hurt very much when we hear that every night the terrorists, the Syrians and others have opened fire at eastern Beirut or have shelled eastern Beirut or the contact lines or Al-'Aqurah and so forth. If His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis was able to arrange for a cease-fire in the south, he should also arrange for a cease-fire in all parts of Lebanon. He must give explicit orders to the Syrian occupation forces and the terrorists to stop all military activity. As you know, we are not separated from the Lebanese people. We are not far from the Lebanese people, wherever they are. We are an inseparable part of the Lebanese people and the Lebanese people are an inseparable part of us. If the cease-fire is violated in Beirut, Al-'Aqurah, Tripoli, Sidon or any other place, we consider that this violation affects us also. If these actions continue, we shall be forced to reply to these actions. We hope that those who arranged the cease-fire will also establish a cease-fire everywhere in Lebanon so that we will not be forced to take counter-measures. As we have told you, all the Lebanese people and every spot in Lebanon are of concern to us.

There is one point that I would like to draw to the attention of my Lebanese brothers, particularly in the eastern areas of Beirut--the liberated areas. The terrorists, the Syrians and others will launch a surprise shelling of the free Lebanese areas. The purpose will be to test the intentions of the United States. They want to find out what the reaction will be of the United States following Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil's visit to the United States. Be careful lest you will be taken by surprise and suffer human losses in the schools, on the streets and in businesses. Take precautions and know what the enemy is preparing for you, because the enemy is treacherous and has no values, morals or conscience. Therefore, you must be careful and cautious.

A commentary by the Syrian information media yesterday or the day before yesterday drew my attention. It seems that Syria still wants some money. It has become in need of some money from Saudi Arabia. It has forgotten the money it received at first. Now it wants to resort again to extortion. Every time it finds a new method. The new method this time was attacking Saudi Arabia without naming it. It began accusing it of avoiding a confrontation with the Israeli enemy and offering solutions and proposals for a solution of the Middle East problem in order to avoid a confrontation.

We ask the world and local public opinion and the Syrians in particular: If Saudi Arabia is avoiding a confrontation, show us when you had a confrontation? Where is this confrontation you are making? Where?

Do you call it a confrontation when you occasionally send some pilot, whom you are angry with and you want to get rid of, to fly and not return? This might deceive some feeble minded and naive people, but it will not deceive the world and us. We know these (tricks). You boast now and then about downing an Israeli reconassance plane, the speed of which does not exceed 100 (km) an hour and which one could hit at times with a rifle. You say that this is manliness, resistance and steadfastness and I don't know what else. If such an action raises your morale, then congratulations to you.

Let us be realistic. Where is the Syrian confrontation? Was the Syrian confrontation represented in the shelling of Al-Ashrafiyah, Al-Hadath, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Furn ash-Shubbak? Or was this confrontation represented in the blockade which was imposed on Zahlah for more than 3 months and in the unprecedented savage and barbaric shelling of peaceful Zahlah? Is this a confrontation? You might say that there were Israeli experts in Zahlah and that you were fighting the Israeli experts there. Do you want to fight Israel? Then come along and fight Israel [words indistinct]. This is how you are black-mailing the world.

Anyway, Saudi Arabia did not commit a mistake the last time. It honored the United States when it resumed the payment of money to Syria. Saudi Arabia is aware of the Syrian lies and deception. It is also aware of the Syrian blackmail and the Syrian role in Lebanon. It is also aware that were it not to pay 1 piaster to Syria, the latter would not leave Lebanon. If Saudi Arabia resumed its payments the last time as a favor to the United States and not because of its conviction, the method of blackmailing will not (?succeed) this time because you have been exposed, oh 'Alawite rulers. You have revealed your true nature and Saudi Arabia will not pay you any more even if you were to accuse it of evasion or anything else. It will not pay you. We hope that Saudi Arabia will not pay you and will not give in to blackmail, because, as a rule, if you submit to a blackmailer, you will not get rid of him. The blackmailer becomes more greedy. I hope that Saudi Arabia will not heed the accusations which Syria is leveling against it, and that it will devote itself to the promotion of the lot of the Saudi people and the service of the Saudis and will halt all aid to the Syrians and the saboteurs, because this aid encourages them to indulge in their transgressions and subversive actions. Today we do not discriminate between the Syrian saboteur and the Palestinian saboteur because of their barbaric and savage actions in Lebanon.

The past 2 weeks were full of events. These events have proved that the Lebanese, whatever their religion and way of thinking may be, want an end to the Syrian-Palestinian occupation. The fighting in Tripoli has proved this. Tripoli, where the overwhelming majority of the inhabitants are Sunnite, rose to resist the occupation. It fought. It is true that they found a method [words indistinct] and claimed that they are zealous about the public interest. However, this is a proof that the inhabitants of Tripoli also do not want the occupation.

Let us go back to the south. Scores of southerners, who cling to their land, and saboteurs fell dead and hundreds were wounded in 1 week. They claimed that this was the result of clashes between Amal and the communists, whereas the fact is that they were clashes with the southerners and the occupiers. We are certain that no more than one Amal member fell dead in the first days of the fighting. To hide the facts, they claim that the clashes were with the communists. I do not belive that [words indistinct] The subversive Fatah organization has participated in the fighting. And so did all the subversive organizations. However, they bring the democratic front at times and I don't know what at other times to declare we are in accord, whereas the fact is that all of them are (?in disagreement). Why? The cease-fire has exposed the intentions of the saboteurs and revealed them in their true nature. You have often misled the world that you want to liberate Palestine. Well, what are you doing now? Are you liberating the south from its sons and aren't you expelling the southerners from the south? This is what convinced the southerners that they are threatened with dispersal and expulsion from their homes. This is what prompted them to carry arms against the occupier saboteurs.

They do not want the occupation any more. Thanks be to God that whenever the Lebanese people rise against the saboteurs of the Syrians, they establish their existence and manifest to the world their heroism. The situation was difficult. It has been stated that Tripoli was surrounded from all directions and was shelled with artillery. Despite this, its inhabitants resisted.

We cannot forget the heroism of Zahlah which resisted [words indistinct]. In An-Nabatiyah, the saboteurs could not enter the (Ansar) or (Haruf) townships or other places. Why? It is because the Lebanese citizen decided to resist with the rifle. He does not have artillery or tanks. He stopped the saboteurs with his rifle. [words indistinct] All the Lebanese must not be content with the news that others are fighting the saboteurs. [Words indistinct] A torch which would burn everything that is the work of the saboteurs. [Words indistinct] Lebanon must become a volcano [words indistnct] the saboteurs. We must burn, [word indistinct] and melt them. Every Lebanese must become a volcano. Every Lebanese must decide: I must put my hand in that of my Lebanese brother until we expel, kill or eliminate the alien occupier, whether he is a Palestinian, Syrian or Libyan or of any other nationality.

[Words indistinct] Do not heed much the statements by the advocates of responsibility, their activities and their drumming about the tripartite or five-member committees and summit conferences. Do not be taken away by this, because all of them [words indistinct] and are working in the interests of the occupier. Do not pin much hopes on what they say to the effect that the quadripartite committee met yesterday upon the directions of President Sarkis and that they will bring all the functionaries to sit around a roundtable. I tell you [words indistinct] mainly because the Lebanese citizen does not need any mediation between him and his Lebanese brother. He does not need the mediation of anybody to agree or sit together with his Lebanese brother. There is no problem among the Lebanese. The problem is the occupier. When the quadripartite committee and the advocates of responsibility ask how we will remove the occupier from Lebanon, we would then be able to say [words indistinct]. We would then say that this is really a first step along the right path. However, as long as some of them speak loudly about [words indistinct], this means that they are working against the interests of Lebanon. Therefore, I ask the Lebanese people [words indistinct] the officials because there is no hope in them. I ask the Lebanese people to continue the uprising march--the liberation march--and think how to unite and contact their brothers elsewhere to be able to form a greater force to resist and end the occupation.

I ask the communists, our brother communists in Lebanon, to remember that they are Lebanese and see [words indistinct] the Polish people. [Words indistinct] It is not because they are against communism [words indistinct] but because they are hungry. They are prevented from eating meat. You in Lebanon eat [words indistinct] weekly. You are living in prosperity. [Words indistinct] in principle, communism thrives in the poor quarters [words indistinct] it is the poor who are now carrying out the revolution in Poland against communism because they want to eat. Instead of [words indistinct] or helping them and raising their standard of living, communism has impoverished the rich and added to the poverty of the poor. What were the improvements in the conditions? Nothing, on the contrary the conditions became worse. If you [words indistinct] take a lesson from Poland where a revolution is taking place because the people are hungry. They demand that the communist regime improve their living conditions. [Words indistinct] If the communist regime were to lift its iron grip on the East European states and give them the right to self-determination, rest assured that no European state would remain communist and even Russia itself would abandon communism. They rule by steel and fire.

Therefore, on Lebanese Communists, it is enough to ask you what has communism (?done and what has it done for you). You are living in prosperity [passage indistinct] with the rest of your Lebanese brothers in order that you and we should save Lebanon. Furthermore, the Lebanese in dear Lebanon are fighting, almost unarmed, the saboteurs and the Syrians, because our heroic prime minister has decided to accept the Libyan offer to provide Lebanon with a missile network. This means that the entire world [words indistinct]. Why this (?vanity). If you want to serve Lebanon and spare it the aggression, then all you have to do is to demand the removal of the cause of aggression from Lebanon. Remove the alien element from Lebanon. Remove the Palestinians, Libyans and I don't know what else. Remove the Iranians and the Syrians from Lebanon and see if anyone would attack Lebanon again, even with a bouquet of roses. The whole world would then respect Lebanon and help it.

The whole world [words indistinct] Al-Wassan's decision. What is all this fuss about? If you want to serve Lebanon and keep Lebanon free from aggression, it is simple. All you have to do is ask that the cause be removed from Lebanon. Remove the aliens, the Palestinians, the Libyans, Iranians, Syrians and so on and so forth from Lebanon. You will see then that no one will hit Lebanon, not even with a flower so as not to harm it. All the world will then respect and aid Lebanon.

Why do you want to install missiles, and who will operate them? (?How many armies) do you have to operate the missiles? You want to fight Israel all by yourself? All the Arab countries are evading confronting Israel, and you now decide to fight Israel. [words indistinct] Isn't the sabotage that Al-Qadhdhafi wreaked in Lebanon enough? Aren't the millions of dollars he paid to ruin Lebanon enough? Now you want to get missiles from him to bring further devastation to Lebanon and the Lebanese.

So far all the Israeli strikes have been directed at the saboteurs [words indistinct] the Israeli strikes at the saboteurs. You want to open a battle by yourself [words indistinct] the Lebanese will really suffer. Have you asked or consulted with the Lebanese or the sons of southern Lebanon? Al-Wazzan, go and ask the people of Ansar, An-Nabatiyah, Sidon or Tyre if they want missiles. If you ask Yasir 'Arafat or Abu al-Hawl, they will certainly say that they want missiles. If you ask a hireling such as Mustafa Sa'd, who licks shoes, he will certainly say [words indistinct]. Thus, enough with the devastation we have encountered at the hands of the Libyans. May God keep them away and ask them to keep their missiles in their country and when the opportunity arises, God willing, we will detonate them there. Anyway, we hope that the Egyptian regime will shortly, God willing, destroy Al-Qadhdhafi and his subversive regime. Thus Egypt will deliver the world from Al-Qadhdhafi's evils.

Before I conclude my speech I want to tell you a short story. Two days ago a civilian told me that he wanted to go to Al-Qantarah [words indistinct]. A soldier asked him if he hailed from occupied Lebanon and about this and that man. He told him that if there was freedom, it is here and if there was an occupied Lebanon, it is where you are. At this point the soldier said nothing.

[Words indistinct] how they portray it to the world. Many people are coming here from various parts of Lebanon. People and even employees come here and go. I believe that they [words indistinct]. If there is a free, independent and sovereign spot in Lebanon, it is free Lebanon. If there is any hope for occupied Lebanon, it is free Lebanon. Officers and soldiers, wherever you are, in Al-Qantarah or Arzun, do you know why you are in Al-Qantarah? Are you convinced that you are serving Lebanon? Do you know that you came here by Syrian orders? Does your dignity tolerate the fact that when you want to go to Al-Qantarah you will have to pass through scores of roadblocks manned by (?rude) saboteurs? Do you know that if any checkpoint gets angry with you, it will liquidate you on the road? If you are in Al-Qantarah or anywhere else, do you know that had we not agreed to your deployment, you would not be here? Had we not agreed, you would not be able to deploy either Al-Qantarah, Arzun or anywhere.

If you do not know this, ask your officers and those who were sent before you. They know that you owe your presence to us, because we want you and agreed to your deployment here. You are not your own masters, and no one forced us to have you here. Furthermore, if we want [words indistinct], we can bring you and anyone. [Words indistinct] You can ask those who were sent to Al-Qantarah before you. [Words indistinct] in free Lebanon. They are very eager to have the opportunity to return and serve in free Lebanon. Moreover, what have you done to help the Lebanese in [name indistinct] which the saboteurs occupied and beat the Lebanese? When the saboteurs shelled, occupied Dayr Qanun an-Nahr and killed 18 people in that village, which is within the UNIFIL operation area, what did you do to help them? What did you do to serve the Lebanese people? [Words indistinct] to serve the Lebanese people or the aliens. Show me what you did to serve the Lebanese people.

If you still have a little dignity, you will refute anyone in the street who says the Lebanese Army must be deployed in the south to fight Sa'd Haddad but not in Beirut because you become sectarian, factional and isolationist in Beirut.

When they send you here to fight Haddad, you become a patriot? [words indistinct] Ask yourself this question: Why don't they allow you to deploy on the contact lines west of the road in Beirut and in the commercial area, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah or [words indistinct]?

Why don't they let you cross from one side to the other? Aren't you Lebanese, and do the Syrians have more rights than you and does the Palestinian Liberation Army have more rights than you to be present in Beirut and elsewhere? You and your superiors [words indistinct] or wear this uniform or take it off. [Words indistinct] on the regime and impose yourselves and the Lebanese sovereignty in the capital. However, all of you are afraid lest you lose your salary. Those who pant after the salary has no dignity. They are (?mercenaries) and they will not save a homeland. It is the honorable people who save the homeland. Material gains do not mean anything to them. They are people who are prepared to sacrifice their blood for the sake of Lebanon.

It is a sin that anyone who is satisfied with his present conditions merely for the sake of the salary should call himself a Lebanese. It is a sin that he should accept his salary. We implore God to bring the Lebanese to their senses and instill the spirit of sacrifice in the hearts of the Lebanses to save their homeland. Let the people know that dignity is safeguarded and preserved in free Lebanon alone. Any soldier or civilian who is zealous about his dignity and gallantry and who wants to serve the homeland has no choice but join free Lebanon. Therefore, I hope and I implore God to open the eyes of the Lebanese to their reality and plant in their hearts the spirit of sacrifice so that all of us may be able to expel the Syrian and Palestinian occupier.

May you live long and may free Lebanon live sovereign and independent.

7 MINISTERS, AMBASSADOR TO TOUR ARAB STATES

NC171840 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the government delegation that will make a tour of the Arab capitals has been expanded to include seven ministers and one ambassador. The ministers have been assigned in principle as follows: Joseph Abu Khatir, Algeria and Mauritania; Rene Mu'awwad, Iraq; Marwan Hamadah, Libya 'Vali al-Khalil, Morrocco; 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Labban; Jordan; Mahmud 'Ammar', YAR and PDRY; Michel Iddih, Somalia and Sudan; and Ambassador Ghassan Tuyani, Tunisia and the Arab League. It has been learned that minister Michel al-Murr has declined for health reasons.

The Cabinet is expected to decide the aims of this tour at its meeting the day after tomorrow before the delegation leaves for the Arab capitals. The delegation is expected to return home Saturday and Sunday.

DAMASCUS REPORTS EXPLOSION AT PRIME MINISTRY

JN171624 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Damascus--A short circuit in the cooling system of the Prime Ministry building has caused a fire in the building which has claimed the lives of three Prime Ministry employees.

Further Details

JN171417 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1403 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] This afternoon a big explosion shook the Syrian capital. The explosion took place at the prime minster's office. Following is a dispatch from our correspondent in Damascus, Lewis Faris, on the explosion:

[Begin recording] At 1200 today, a big explosion occurred at the Syrian prime minister's office. The explosion shook nearby buildings. A big fire broke out as a result of the explosion. Fire brigades swiftly managed to contain the fire following strenuous efforts. A responsible source said that the explosion was caused by an electrical short circuit in the power and air conditioning units at the prime minister's office which set the northern part of the building on fire.

Another responsible source said that three persons were killed in the fire. Eyewitnesses said that other casualties have been reported. Ambulances were seen moving the injured. Helicopters were also seen transporting those who were on the roof of the building. The area is still closed off by the security forces. It appears that the prime minister and his deputies were not in the building at the time of the explosion. Also none of the ministers was in the building as the prime minister and the Cabinet members were at the parliament building. [end recording]

KHADDAM MEETS ARAFAT, OTHERS IN DAMASCUS

JN171241 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Damascus--A meeting was held at the Foreign Ministry today attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee; and the leaders of the Lebanese National Movement and the Amal Movement. The discussion during the meeting dealt with the situation in the Lebanese arena.

Statement Issued

NC172132 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The National Movement, the Amal Movement and the Palestinian Resistance command have announced, after the return of a joint delegation from Damascus where it held talks with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, that security measures will be applied soon. A statement issued this evening says that the three sides agreed to confine their armed presence only to the areas where battles with the Israeli enemy take place and to remove all armed manifestations. The Arab Deterrent Forces will assume the task of maintaining security in Beirut and its suburbs.

BEGIN REQUESTS CONTINUATION OF HABIB'S MISSION

TA171815 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The prime minister has requested from the U.S. secretary of state that Philip Habib continue his mission to bring about the removal of the Syrian missiles from Lebanon's Al-Biqa'. In a letter he sent Haig, Begin asks the whereabouts of Habib and why his mission was interrupted.

The prime minister has also stated the grave concern with which Israel views the continued terrorist entrenchment in Lebanon and their activities against Israeli targets.

REACTION TO U.S. RELEASING AIRCRAFT REPORTED

Jerusalem Reaction 'Cool'

TA180633 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] The reaction in Jerusalem is cool. The Prime Minister's Office referred us to Menahem Begin's remarks on Sunday following the Cabinet meeting that day. A grave injustice against Israel was perpetrated by the United States, that is what the prime minister stated at that time. Now the U.S. administration has decided to rectify this injustice--that is, to do justice. The 16 planes whose delivery was suspended were not U.S. planes at all, but Israeli aircraft which were held on U.S. soil, the prime minister stated.

There is, then, no intention to thank the U.S. administration for lifting the embargo on the planes' delivery. Moreover, it was stressed last night in Jerusalem that Israel has not assumed any new commitment in return for the planes' release. The agreement on the use of the U.S. planes--for defensive purposes only has never been violated. It appears that policymakers here are thus seeking to indicate to the administration leaders Israel's displeasure at the U.S. reaction to Israeli moves.

Yesterday the prime minister also sent a message to Secretary of State Alexander Haig. In the message Menahem Begin asks where Philip Habib is, and when he intends to come to the region to continue his mission for the removal of the missiles the Syrians stationed in Lebanon.

Begin Aide: No New Commitments

TA171944 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The publicity saying that Israel has given the United States new commitments as a condition for the release of the aircraft is completely without foundation. This was stated today by the prime minister's adviser on communications affairs, Uri Porat, in reply to a question by our political correspondent. He added that no commitment had been given beyond that signed in the contract for arms supplies between Israel and the United States from 1952. Israel has never used weapons it received from the United States for anything else but purely defensive purposes, the prime minister's adviser said. This was also stressed in talks Prime Minister Menahem Begin held about 1 month ago with President Reagan's envoy, Robert MacFarlane. These were the talks after which the United States decided to resume the aircraft deliveries, but retracted this decision after the bombing of the terrorist headquarters in Beirut. Today the prime minister's adviser emphasized that Israel had not been asked to agree to new conditions and, if it had been asked, it would have turned that request down.

'Evron Interview

TA180716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Interview with Israeli Ambassador to the United States Efrayim 'Evron by Washington correspondent Shalom Qital; date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Ambassador 'Evron, does the U.S. announcement about the resumption of the aircraft delivery to Israel, on the lifting of the suspension, totally do away with this affair, or is there still a residue in the relations between the two countries?

[Answer] I hope that the affair has now been laid to rest completely and that no residue will remain that will have a detrimental effect on the relations between the two countries.

[Question] The suspension was nonetheless an unprecedented action.

[Answer] It is true that this was an unprecedented action, and we also thought--and still think--that it was an unjustified and harmful action. But despite this, now that the suspension has been lifted, I hope--in fact, I am certain--that Israeli-U.S. relations will once again flow in the channel of deep friendship and close relations which existed in the past, and which will perhaps become even closer in the future.

[Question] When I ask about a residue, Mr 'Evron, I am referring among other matters, to the highly critical statements made against Israel--not only in the administration, but also in the Congress and in public opinion--throughout this entire long period of 2 and 1/2 months. Does all this suddenly disappear with the administration's decision?

[Answer] The administration's decision will certainly be of great help in viewing matters in a more correct and realistic perspective. But even before this latest administration decision, we saw that criticism which had been leveled against us--for example, on the matter of the bombing of the nuclear reactor in Baghdad--that criticism faded quite quickly when the critics grasped the significance and objective of our operation, and the reasons that led us to carry it out. It is my impression that in the case of the Beirut operation, too, there are now indications of greater understanding, and I hope that the criticism will fade away.

[Question] Doesn't the administration now expect Israel to be more selective in its use of U.S. arms. Is the administration's decision to renew the delivery of the planes not subject to prior consultation between Israel and the United States?

[Answer] Israel was and continues to be well aware of the U.S. law regarding the supply of arms. That law restricts the use of U.S. arms to self-defense operations. We are convinced that all the operations we have carried out to date, our use to date of U.S. arms, were all salient illustrations of self-defense--in every case and in every operation. This is how we shall act in the future as well.

[Question] One more question: I understand that the next affair is that of the AWACS; that is, one crisis has passed in the relations between the two countries, but perhaps another is on the way.

[Answer] There are always problems, and solutions will always be found for them. The most important thing is the development and deepening of the friendly relations between us, and I hope that the prime minister's forthcoming visit here will constitute a major contribution in this direction.

[Qital] Mr Ambassador, thank you very much.

Morning Press Reaction

TA180744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 18 Aug 81

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] The Jerusalem POST says that the United States must make its intentions, whatever they may be, perfectly clear to Israel, instead of directly waiting until it lowers the boom.

Israel, for its part, has no commitment to accept any dictate from Washington, since in the end it is we who must decide what our security requires us to do. But the government must not delude itself into thinking that realization of the right to self-defense without regard for the policies and priorities of our friends and allies does not carry a price.

HATZOFE writes that no one understands what the United States wants. In this debate, clear things should be said. Israel is being called on to undertake not to use U.S. planes in actions liable to prove harmful to the U.S. political interest. The issue must not be camouflaged by referring to requirements of defense or offense.

DAVAR says that we should bear in mind that besides the good will of President Reagan himself, it is important for Israel to prevent a situation in which consecutive failures in the struggles within the U.S. administration will push Secretary of State Alexander Haig to resign. The compromise reported by NEWSWEEK, in Mr Haig's name, regarding the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia, should be given a sober appraisal. If the price of the campaign over the AWACS should prove too high--particularly if Israel wins a short-term victory--then Haig's survival in the administration, alongside Israel's prerogative, should also be taken into account and promoted.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that the lack of clear objectives in U.S. policy in the Middle East dovetails amazingly with the lack of clear objectives in Israeli policy in the north. In our foreign and defense policy, as in that of the United States, the place of intelligent consideration has been taken by the offensive consideration. Firmness and a proud stance are now replacing foresight and intelligent flexibility. Hard times are, then, to be expected in the relations between the Reagan and Begin governments.

In the view of NASHA STRANA, the U.S. condition that the planes must serve solely for self-defense cannot change a thing in the ongoing war for the survival of the state of Israel.

UJ KELET writes that the prime minister's statements will be of no avail; we shall have to return to our natural size, as the paper puts it, and heed the orders of the landlord, of the exclusive supplier of the weapons we need for our security.

Afternoon Papers Editorials

TA180947 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Review of afternoon press editorials]

[Text] MA'ARIV writes that Alexander Haig's remarks regarding the supply of planes were designed to save the administration's prestige without harming Israel. It is hoped that after the planes arrive in Israel the affair will be forgotten. Once things are smoothed over, a thorough discussion can be held on the important and essential issues in Israeli-U.S. relations.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT welcomes the prime minister's request that the United States renew the Philip Habib mission. It is possible that if there were a rational government in Damascus, it would be convinced to remove the missiles. Judging by his past behavior, however, it is doubtful whether Hafiz al-Asad will be in any hurry to demonstrate a spirit of compromise.

ISRAELI OPPOSITION TO AWACS DEAL CONTINUES

TA171608 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Israel's opposition in principle to the sale of U.S. AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia has not changed, our political correspondent Gad Becker was told at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem today.

Israel can by no means afford to trade its security interests, the sources at the Prime Minister's Office say, but they add that the decision on making the deal is an internal American matter. That statement was made following reports released in the United States, that Israel would receive, concurrently with the AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia, information from U.S. spy satellites as well as a promise that the aircraft would be manned by U.S. crews who would not fly spying missions over Israel.

ISRAELI MUSLIM PILGRIMS MUST FLY TO SAUDI ARABIA

TA181002 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0930 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 Aug--The Saudi Arabian Government recently informed the Jordan Interior Ministry that it has decided to grant permits to only about 3,000 Israeli Muslims to fulfil the precept of the pilgrimage to the Islamic holy places in the coming season. This has been learned by the ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria from sources in East Jerusalem.

The Saudis also announced that, unlike the previous pilgrimage seasons, this time the Israeli pilgrims will be flown from the Jordanian capital to the holy places in Saudi Arabia on special planes, and will not go by land. Muslim notables in Israel had expressed opposition to flights in view of their high price, and through various sources they had requested that the previous arrangement--travel on Iranian buses from the Allenby Bridge to Saudi Arabia--be allowed to continue. However, this request has been turned down, it is now learned.

ADVANCE PARTY TO DEPART FOR ALEXANDRIA 19 AUG

TA181104 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Aug 81 p 2

[Ilan Kfir report]

[Text] An Israeli advance party will leave for Alexandria tomorrow to prepare for the meeting between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat next week. The advance party is to include the prime minister's senior aides: Brig Gen Efrayim Poran; the adviser on communications affairs, Uri Porat; and security and communications personnel.

The Foreign Ministry's Department for Egyptian Affairs has been maintaining continuous contact over the last few days with the Egyptian Foreign Ministry to prepare details of the prime minister's visit. As far as can be seen, Mr Begin will hold at least two working meetings with President as-Sadat, the first of which will take the form of a dinner the Egyptian president will give for the prime minister and the senior ministerial team accompanying him, which will include Defense Minister Air'el Sharon, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Minister of the Interior Dr Yosef Burg, who is acting as head of the Israeli team to the autonomy talks.

Jerusalem has received with satisfaction the announcement that the Egyptian foreign minister, Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, reacted positively to Air'el Sharon's liberalization plan for the territories.

AS-SADAT SUGGESTION ON GAZA FIRST AUTONOMY OPPOSED

TA171315 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Aug 81 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Israel will reject President as-Sadat's suggestions to implement the autonomy plan in Gaza first. The Gaza-first issue was given a thorough airing in consultations held by experts in the past few days on the resumption of the autonomy talks. The Egyptian president made his suggestion to implement the autonomy plan in Gaza first at the Aswan summit in January 1980, and since then he and Prime Minister Menahem Begin have not discussed the autonomy talks.

The prime minister has come out against the Gaza first idea, and in this he has the support of most Cabinet members, including the ministerial autonomy team. In the discussions regarding the renewal of the autonomy talks, it was decided that the autonomy scheme could not be implemented in Gaza before the completion of the Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. talks and the signing of the autonomy agreement.

In these discussions, one of the leading experts on the territories proposed that Israel undertake to work for the immediate application of the autonomy plan in the Gaza Strip, explaining that Gaza was ready for this. His suggestion was rejected.

It was decided in the discussions that Israel will insist that all the powers pertaining to internal and external security be under its sole responsibility. It will be recalled that this issue caused the torpedoing of the autonomy talks in May 1980, and they have not been resumed since. Israel continues to oppose the formation of a legistative assembly alongside the administrative council which will have responsibility for running the autonomy regime. Israel is demanding that the source of the authority for autonomy also remain in its hands in the future.

NEW CROSSING POINT INTO EGYPT SET FOR RAFAH

TA180944 Jerusalem POST in English 18 Aug 81 p 1

[Joshua Brilliant report]

[Text] Israeli officials have earmarked a 200-dunam area near Rafah for a new crossing point to Egypt. It will replace the present temporary terminal at Ne'ot Sinai near Al-'Arish, which is to be vacated by next April, when Israel withdraws to the international boundary.

Ramon Har'el, director-general of the airports authority, which is to establish the new terminal, said that the Rafah site will be larger than Ne'ot Sinai. It will include a duty-free shop and parking lots. he added.

The Rafah terminal will be used mainly to serve visitors, while the second terminal at Nizzana is expected to be the main gateway for goods. The road from Nizzana reaches the tunnel that the Egyptians are building under the Suez canal near Ismailiya. Crossing the canal at that point is expected to be easier than crossing at Al-Qantarah (at the end of the road from Al-'Arish) where there is only a bridge of rafts.

It is not yet clear whether Egypt will open the Nizzana-Ismailiya road to Israelis. At the moment, foreigners are restricted to the coastal road.

Har'el said that he hoped to open one or two more terminals near Eilat: One at Tabah for travellers to south Sinai and the other on the road to the 'Ezyon airfield.

'ELEMENTS' REACT TO NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IDEA

TA171251 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Aug 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by Military Correspondent Ze'ev Schiff]

[Excerpt] Israel will be ready to adopt the plan for a nuclear-free region provided it includes both Pakistan and Arab countries in North Africa. This was the reaction, yesterday, of Israeli elements to U.S. activity aimed at creating a nuclear-free Middle East.

Interviewed this week in the New York TIMES, Mr Eugene Rostow, the new director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, said that the Reagan administration has begun preliminary diplomatic discussions aimed at clarifying the possibility of a nuclear-free agreement in the Middle East.

The Israeli sources confirmed that there have already been first approaches to Israeli representatives in the United States regarding the possible banning of nuclear arms in the region, though the subject had not been formally presented to the Israeli Government. These sources point out that it was Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir who put forward the idea of a nuclear-free Middle East in his address last year to the General Assembly. There had been positive reactions to his speech, but it had subsequently emerged that the Arab states and other countries were opposed to the suggestion solely because it was Israel that initiated it. Israel had therefore affiliated itself with a similar nuclear-free proposal put forward by Egypt.

For some reason Mr Rostow did not mention the Israeli proposal, although he did cite as an example the South American model for a nuclear-free region, known as the Tlatelolco Treaty. What is unique about this treaty is that it was signed by South American countries who did not sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Argentina and Brazil, for example, are not signatories to that treaty (nor is Israel), but they nonetheless signed the Tlatelolco Treaty to ban nuclear weapons from South America.

Argentina and Brazil are at a scientific and technological level which would enable them to produce nuclear arms. It is possible that one of the reasons for their refusal to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty is the incomplete supervision exercised by the International Atomic Energy Agency. Another unique feature of the Tlatelolco Treaty is the fact that the United States has affiliated itself with the treaty, and the Soviet Union, too, has agreed to maintain South America as a nuclear-free zone.

The Israeli sources noted that this kind of nuclear-free region plan would not be complete if it encompassed only Israel and the confrontation states; it must, they said, cover all the Arab states, including Muslim countries such as Pakistan which, as is known, is moving toward the manufacture of nuclear arms.

The political correspondent of HA'ARETZ reports that Prime Minister Begin, replying yesterday to a question about the U.S. suggestion for a nuclear-free region in the Middle East, said that when such a proposal was put before the government it would be discussed.

PAKISTAN: ISRAEL HINDERING NUCLEAR SUPPLY

TA161057 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Aug 81 p 2

[Report by correspondent in Britain Yosi Melman]

[Text] London, 15 Aug--Pakistan has accused Israel of damaging European firms that supply Pakistan with nuclear equipment and knowhow. Official Pakistani sources have told me that in their opinion Israeli intelligence agents have been responsible for these acts perpetrated recently.

In the last few weeks, several bombs were planted in the offices the company ("Elcom"), as well as in the offices of a German and a Swiss firm, all of which supply the Pakistani nuclear reactor in Islamabad with important equipment.

According to the police, these bombs had been planted by superb professionals with the intention of intimidating the companies, rather than damaging equipment or harming people. The Pakistani sources also claimed that they believe Israel would continue this intimidation campaign to prevent further deals between European Companies and Pakistan.

Last week, BBC Television broadcast a documentary on the issue stating that in a few months Pakistan would be capable of manufacturing sufficient quantities of plutonium to carry out its first nuclear test. The broadcast reported that Libya has been financing the production of Pakistan's atomic bomb and is demanding that the first bomb be handed over to it. In reaction to this BBC broadcast, the Pakistani Embassy in London has issued a statement charging that "the presentation of facts in the program was a foul lie founded on Israeli propaganda and ultimately aimed at harming Pakistan and its efforts of obtaining nuclear knowhow for peaceful purposes."

KNESSET COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIPS BEING ASSIGNED

TA171822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 17 Aug 81

[From the evening newsreel]

[Excerpt] Before the Knesset members go on their holidays, they will decide on the committee chairmen and their members. Several obstacles still remain. In the future, too, the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee will be chaired by Prof Moshe Arens of the Likud. Despite the MAPAM faction's opposition, the committee will make the decision to incorporate Knesset members Moshe Dayan and Yuval Ne'eman as permanent observers in the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee. The Finance Committee will be chaired by MK Shlomo Lorincz of Agudat Yisra'el. The house committee's chairman: the Liberal Party is demanding that post. It appears that if the Nowegian law is passed and Moshe Meron comes back to serve as a Knesset member, he will be able to receive the chairmanship of the committee. The Public Audit Committee will be headed by MK Avraham 'Oz of the alignment. The Committee for Labor and Welfare will be chaired by Rabbi Porush, Agudat Yisra'el. The Committee for Constitution, Law and Justice: The NRP is demanding the chairmanship of that committee. The economics committee: Gad Ya'aqobi of the Alignment. The Committee of the Interior and Environment: Shoshana Arbeli and Tamar Eshel of the Alignment are competing for the post and this will be decided tomorrow. The education Committee: Ora Namir. The Committee for Immigration and Absorption: 'Uzi Bar-'Am of the Alignment. This is how matters appear in the 10th Knesset.

Committee Structure

TA171412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Both the Financial and the Defense and Foreign Affairs Knesset Committees will have 21 members; they will be the largest of the Knesset co ttees. In the other committees, the number of members has been decreased and varies between 9 for the Committee for State Finance and 15 for the Education, Internal and Economic Committees. The Likud has been given 63 places in committees and the Alignment has 58. All the small factions together have been given 25 places. In each committee the coalition factions have an advantage of one member.

The Knesset plenum is now scheduled to approve the committees' new structure.

Committees Endorsed

TA171724 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Excerpt] The Knesset plenum has endorsed the committee structure of the house. Forty-nine members from the coalition and the Alignment voted for the proposal. Against it were the members of Hadash, Shinuy and Shulamit Aloni of the Alignment. 'Adi'el Amoray abstained from the vote and four Alignment members did not participate in the vote, even though they were present.

ARTILLERY COMMANDER DISCUSSES TERRORIST ACTIVITY

TA171529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The chief artillery officer has said that the achievements gained by the artillery corps in the north in hitting the terrorists cannot negate the fact that the terrorists succeed in firing at and hitting our civilian settlements. In an interview with our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, he said that it would be difficult to prevent the terrorists' activity, since they were firing rapidly with a small quantity of ammunition at a large civilian target.

Brig Gen Arye Mizrahi said that the terrorists had the Soviet bloc's best artillery pieces. According to him, Middle East papers have recently published reports that the terrorists were using firing computers for artillery.

NEW ARTILLERY EQUIPMENT FOR IDF REPORTED

TA171527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Today the IDF revealed two support measures which are helping the artillery corps do its work with great precision and more speed. One of the tools is a radar for range-finding and detecting enemy movements, capable of watching shell explosions at a distance of more than 15 km and correcting the shots.

Another support measure revealed today is a muzzle velocity indicator which gives data about the velocity of the shell emerging from the barrel and permits a correction of the firing.

LAND EXPROPRIATED FOR WEST BANK SETTLEMENT

TA171259 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 17 Aug 81 p 1

[Report by West Bank correspondent]

[Excerpt] The Military Government is continuing to expropriate land in the West Bank. Our correspondent has learned that 64 dunams of land near the settlement of 'Ofra were expropriated from their owners, who live in Silwad. They were asked to go to a Military Government office to receive compensation. The entire area is covered with fruit trees. The residents have stated that they will refuse to accept compensation for their land, which their families have owned for generations.

NEW SETTLEMENT PLANNED ALONG GREEN LINE

TA171229 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Aug 81 p 2

[Yehuda Litani report]

[Text] A new urban settlement, to be called Yehudit, is to be established in the coming months in the Modi'in area, on both sides of the Green Line. The settlement is to be populated by religious settlers and Yeshiva students--mainly Agudat Yisra'el supporters. Potential settlers have visited the site--the settlement has been allocated state domain land--in the past few months so they could form an impression of it.

The new settlement established on Jabal at-Tawil, near Al-Birah--where several families have been living for the past 2 weeks--will be named Psagot. This settlement was supposed to serve as a regional center for all the settlements in the area called Mate Binyamin.

The heads of the education departments in the West Bank said this week that they have received from the Military Government staff officer for education a list of 85 books which may not be used for study purposes nor retained by libraries in educational institutions in the West Bank. These books include several volumes that were used for study decades ago.

Palestinian national literature week opened at the end of last week in the St George School in east Jerusalem with the participation of writers, poets and politicians from both sides of the Green Line: (Sami'ah al-Qasm), (Fadu'a Tugan), Emil Habibi, 'Ali Al-Khalili and others. A so-called "Palestine week" has been taking place for the past few days in the civil servants' club in east Jerusalem.

JERUSALEM AGREES TO SUPPLY WATER TO BETHLEHEM

TA181022 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Aug 81 p 14

[Text] The Jerusalem municipality has granted Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj's request to Mayor Teddy Kollek and has started supplying Bethlehem, Bayt Sahur and Bayt Jalah with water. Frayj made the request because of the difficulties the local water plant was having in supplying the region's needs during August-October.

At this stage some 1,000 cubic meters of water per day will be supplied, with the possibility of more. This will be done after the Bethlehem municipality repairs the pipeline extension for this purpose. The Jerusalem municipality has laid a temporary 100-meter pipeline in Bayt Jalah to extend this aid.

BRIEFS

EXPORTS UP--Israeli exports of aircraft and aircraft parts in the first 7 months of this year reached $182 million, an 80 percent increase over exports for the same period last year. This is consistent with the growth trend of such exports in recent years. According to recently released statistics, in the first 7 months of this year Israel exportd $418 million worth of metal and machine products and machinery (a 19 percent increase over the same period last year). Of this figure, $196 million was military equipment, marking a 75 percent increase in such exports over the same period last year. During this period Israel exported $136 million worth of electrical and electronic equipment (a 16 percent increase over the same period last year). Of this figure, $53 million was in military goods, an increase of 52 percent over last year. During the first 7 months of this year, Israel exported $83 million basic industrial metal goods (a 32 percent increase over the same period last year). Of this figure, $62 million was in military goods, a 64 percent increase. [Jerusalem POST in English 17 Aug 81 p 1 TA]

MAURITANIA

COMMUNIQUE REPORTS NEW CMSN APPOINTMENTS 17 AUG

AB171842 Paris AFP in French 1723 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Nouakchott, 17 August (AFP)--According to a communique issued in Nouakchott on Monday, Lt Col Ahmed Mahmoud Ould El Houssein has been appointed permanent secretary of the CMSN, the ruling body in Mauritania. Lt Col El Houssein, who was inspector of the Mauritanian Army before his appointment, was also minister of information and telecommunications in 1979.

Lt Comdr Diop Moustapha, head of the national navy, has been appointed deputy permanent secretary of information. The Department of Information was attached to the Permanent Bureau of the CMSN on 25 April 1981 and it was headed by Comdr Mohamed Sidina Ould Sidya.

MOROCCO

'SOURCES' CITED ON ACTIONS OF IRANIAN GUNBOAT

LD172047 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Authorative Moroccan sources have issued clarifications with regard to the entry into Moroccan territorial waters by the Iranian patrol boat Tabarzin--a matter which aroused many rumors and claims.

These sources have reaffirmed that the patrol boat did not proceed to Tangiers, but sailed to Casablanca. It was loaded with arms and ammunition, including 1,250 40-mm shells and 270 76-mm shells. The sources added that the crew of the patrol boat demanded with threats that the boat should be supplied with water, provisions and fuel. In order to avoid a mutiny on board the boat and an explosion which could have led to considerable material damage, even to the destruction of the port, the Moroccan authorities agreed to supply the boat. The boat was then escorted to the limits of Moroccan territorial waters. The sources reaffirmed that the boat has been outside Moroccan territorial waters for the past 48 hours.

SUDAN

LIBYAN AIRCRAFT SAID TO VIOLATE SUDANESE AIRSPACE

JN171802 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Aug (SUNA)--Libya is currently following a policy to disturb security and peace in African and Arab countries, a report to SUNA revealed. The report explained that Libya is conveying arms and ammunition to her agents in the appointed countries through pro-Libyan states.

The arms are loaded on united-African airlines company cargo airplanes--a company founded and possessed by Libya. This company uses different cargo airplanes of variant loads including 44 airplanes (18-20 tons), DC-8 airplanes (30 tons), Boeing 707 (30 tons) and C-130 airplanes (20-25 tons).

The airplanes of this company used not to reply to wireless communications while flying over the airspace of a state which does not approve of passing these weapons through her, SUNA added.

SUNA quoted official sources here saying that Sudan has refused a demand from this company to fly over Sudan's airspace. In spite of this refusal, one of these airplanes passed over Sudan to a neighbouring country last March. This incident occurred twice at the same month. Didn't reply to wireless communications. [sentence as received]

An official source said the military authorities here will take serious measures if these incidents occurred again.

SOMALIA

U.S. DELEGATION HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT, WSLF

Discussions With Siad Barre

EA172008 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party Secretary General and Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre today received at the presidency the U.S. congressional delegation led by Mr Howard Wolpe, chairman of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee for Africa. Challe Siad and the U.S. delegation held talks on bilateral relations and cooperation, the Horn of Africa issue and the present world tension. The two sides were in agreement on (?all) issues discussed.

The president stressed to the delegation that the SDR does not want, nor does it expect to get, territory from any country but was only honoring and upholding the (?fundamental) principle of allowing all colonized peoples to freely exercise their right to self-determination on the basis of justice, (?democracy) and human dignity. SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre added that the SDR (?wishes) to promote peace, cooperation and the unity of the international community [words indistinct] sensible and [word indistinct] coexistence and to (?oppose) provocation, friction and intervention by foreign powers bent on disturbing world peace and stability. The president of the SDR declared that Somalia is striving [words indistinct] the three enemies of hunger, disease and ignorance, adding that [words indistinct] succeeded when the Somali script was introduced.

Challe Siad said: While we were busy with our development and the promotion of international security, the Abyssinian regime, incited and helped by foreign powers [words indistinct] the SDR, the latest of which was the attack in Dolo District and other areas. The SDR president said it is imperative to find just solutions to international problems, including the Horn of Africa issue, and to promote peace. Pointing out that peoples still under the colonial yoke include those of Namibia, Western Somalia, Abo, Eritrea and Palestine, the president stressed that they should be granted their right to self-determination. The president of the SDR, Challe Siad, said the people of Western Somalia are free to (?decide their destiny) and the SDR will support them in seeking a peaceful and just solution to their problem. The president said: In seeking peace, we are ready to hold direct talks with Abyssinian leaders to search for paths to a political solution based on justice.

SDR President Challe Siad stated: We have agreed with the leaders of Kenya to strengthen bilaternal relations and we hope these will reach a satisfactory level in the future.

The president of the SDR sharply condemned the aparthied policy of the racist regime in South Africa, which, he said, is a blot on human dignity and has no place in this modern era. Challe Siad declared that the human race is obliged to coexist in peace and cooperate toward development and prosperity, for there is no point in self-destruction by engaging in confrontation and animosity.

The president added that there is a need for certain powers to fulfill their obligations in the maintenance of peace and stability in the world and to realize the serious consequences of dictatorship, warmongering and intervention.

In conclusion, Challe Siad asked the delegates to convey greetings to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the Congress, the administration and the people of the United States.

The leader of the delegation, Mr Howard Wolpe, expressed gratitude for the warm welcome they received in Somalia and disclosed that his delegation was impressed with the level and momentum of the relationship between the SDR and the United States.

Also present were the chairman of the Political Committee of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, Challe 'Abd al-Qasim Salad Hasan; the chairman of the Economic, Finance and Commerce Committee of the National Assembly Standing Committee, Challe Mohamed Dueleh; Foreign Minister Chayle Abdurahman Jama Barre; Minister of State Planning Challe Ahmed Habib Ahmed; Minister of Education Challe Adan Mohamed Ali; Secretary of the National Assembly Challe [name indistinct]; Deputy Defense Minister Maj Gen Yusuf Ahmed Farhan; the chairman of the National Refugee Commission, Challe Abdi Mohamed Taraq; and the ambassadors of the two countries in Mogadishu and Washington.

Meeting With WSLF Leaders

EA171640 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The visiting U.S. congressional delegation yesterday met leaders of the Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF]. The meeting, which took place at the front's headquarters in Mogadishu, was attended by the U.S. delegation led by Mr Howard Wolpe and the Executive Committee of the WSLF, which represented the front in the meeting.

Following the talks, the secretary general of the WSLF, Mr Muhammad Diriye Abdi 'Urdoh, told reproters that the WSLF leaders explained to the U.S. delegation the magnitude of the existing problems in the Horn of Africa and in particular the just war being waged by the fronts against Abyssinian colonialism.

Challe Muhammad Diriye Abdi Urdoh, the secretary general of the WSLF, also clearly informed the delegation members that the only way to reach a just and lasting solution is to allow the Somali people and others under Abyssinian colonialism to have self-determination. Challe Muhammad Diriye Abdi Urdoh explained the front's readiness to participate in any talks which will settle the issue peacefully, but Mr Urdoh added that all peaceful steps are opposed by the Abyssinian rulers.

Challe Urdoh further explained to the delegation members that the Abyssinian rulers are still carrying on with their barbaric acts of massacre and oppression against the Western Somali people which has resulted in the exodus of 2 million people who are now in the Somalia, Djibouti and neighboring countries.

The secretary general of the WSLF said that the U.S. delegation had understood the problems in the Horn of Africa and would like the U.S. Government to provide assistance in solving the problem in the Horn of Africa.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

LE MONDE VIEWS CENTRAL AFRICAN POLITICAL TENSIONS

PM140936 Paris LE MONDE in French 9-10 Aug 81 pp 1, 3

[Pierre Biarnes dispatch: "Imbroglios in Central African Republic"]

[Text] Bangui--"We hope that the new French leaders will now delay no longer in removing the effects of Giscardianism in the Central African Republic. We also hope they will ask Dacko to resign. Otherwise the people's disappointment will have terrible consequences."

"I would like to be able to go to Paris soon and explain to the new French leaders that, if they continue to restrict their aid as Giscard d'Estaing did, we will soon lose control and chaos will then ensue in Central Africa."

These two completely contradictory remarks, which were made to us in the space of just a few hours on Tuesday by Mr Ange Patasse and Mr David Dacko, illustrate the dilemma in which the factions now fighting in Bangui are placing the former mother country. Their respective leaders agree in regarding the latter as bearing most responsibility for the serious difficulties they are now facing, and each intend to impose their own solution.

However, it is not easy to make a choice, if anybody wishes to make one at present, between Mr Patasse, who was a close collaborator of Bokassa before being converted to democracy, and the fallen emperor's successor who was his victim at least for a whole.

A Country Divided in Two

Roughly speaking the country is divided into two. On one side the Provisional People's Council [CPP] which, theoretically at least, groups the four main opposition movements--the "gang of four"--in which the most prominent figure is Mr Ange Patasse. On the other side is Mr David Dacko, the head of state, and his supporters, mostly grouped within the Central African Democratic Union.

The Movement for the Liberation of the Central African People [MLPC] led by Mr Patasse, broadly dominates the CPP, both by the dynamism of its leader and the numerical strength of its members, who gave it more than 38 percent of the votes in the presidential election in March. Compared with the MLPC, the parties led by Mr Francois Pehoua (Independent Reflection and Action grouping), Mr Henri Maidou (Republican Party for Progress) and Mr Abel Goumba (Ubangi Patriotic Front), which together won scarcely 10 percent of the votes in the same election, have little influence even if their respective leaders might, at first sight, seem more convincing, more attractive or more reliable. If this disparate groups were to succeed in ousting Mr Dacko it could only be in Mr Patasse's favor, at least initially.

However, the latter's populist enthusiasm whatever he might think, has nothing to a priori attract the ruling French left. His attempts to move closer to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi; his demagogic calls for tax and cotton strikes; the African-style praetorian guard with which he was theatrically surrounded himself in his derisory "Chabrol Fort" at "Kilometer 10" on the road out of Bangui where, whatever he says, nobody is threatening him; the extreme nervousness which is apparent in this gestures and statements, are frankly disturbing. Equally disturbing are the unguarded statements which his temporary allies, usually more careful, are led to make by imitation.

For instance, Mr Pemoua went so far as to excuse the French Army of having instigated the 14 July attack and a close adviser to Mr Maidou, former mayor of Bangui, reveals to you, between two whiskies, terrifying scenarios of the next blow which Mr Dacko is planning to strike against the people and democracy.

Mr Dacko: "I have never been trusted"

In his residence at "de Roux" camp--guarded by paratroopers on a rocky promontory overlooking Ubangi--which was formerly Bokassa's residence and shose furniture and tapestries are reminders of the imperial pomp, "fat David" as his friends call him, does not resemble the dictator whose portrait is misleadingly painted by his adversaries. The Central African head of state, who suffers from chronic high blood pressure and looks much older than he is, is, above all, a tired man who is clearly finding it difficult to cope with the situation. "A weak man who occasionally flies into terrible rages," according to most of those who know him well.

Some 2 years after his reinstallation in power by the French paratroopers, people are still wondering for what obscure reason the Elysee chose this secondary figure who had already demonstrated his inadequacy in the early sixties. Moreover, he is not completely taken in: "I have never really been trusted and they have considered replacing me on three occasions. Advisers who were really guardians were forced upon me. The financial aid which was granted to me was only granted in dribs and drabs. Each month I was asked how much I needed to balance the books and only then was I sent 500 to 600 million Central African francs 2 or 3 weeks late to make good the deficit. But I had nothing extra with which to buy a minimum of equipment and supplies. In these circumstances how could I be expected to consolidate my power and stabilize the situation once and for all? My sincere efforts to democratize political life could only look like weakness. Now, well, it's just the same. At the end of July I was again asked how much I needed and I am waiting to receive the money I have been promised to balance the books. This cannot continue."

"This cannot continue" is also precisely what Mr Patasse and his friends are saying. But they, on the other hand, are demanding a temporary but complete suspension of French aid to hasten the end of the Dacko regime and push a man they know to be disheartened into resigning.

At present, faced with these conflicting pressures, France is continuing to show caution and prudence. The "barracudas" [reference to French troops in the Central African Republic] are being maintained in Bangui and Bouar to prevent an uncontrollable explosion; but the French "green berets" are being withdrawn from the presidential guard. Whatever happens help is still being given to enable the Central African public treasury to make ends meet in order to prevent the collapse of the machinery of state; but the French voluntary workers are beginning to abandon one after the other the responsible posts which had hitherto been entrusted to them in a few key sectors. In short, France is still supporting Mr Dacko, but discreetly.

However, it is not certain that this wait-and-see position can be maintained for long without ultimately annoying everybody. Although too little to consolidate his position on a lasting basis, the aid which is still being given to the present head of state is nonetheless helping to keep him in power and that is increasingly exasperating his adversaries who could be tempted to go elsewhere--in this case to Tripoli and Moscow, as Dr Idi Lala, the instigator of the 14 July attack, has already started to do--to seek the support which has apparently been refused them in Paris for too long, while Mr David Dacko is apparently staking his all and turning in the opposite direction.

ZAIRE

CHADIAN ENVOY DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH LIBYA

AB141305 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Excerpt] The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, this morning granted two audiences. First he received the Chadian ambassador at Camp Tchatchi and then he met with the Danish ambassador, who bade him farewell.

The Chadian ambassador to Zaire, Jean-Baptiste Laokole, delivered to the founding chairman a message from President Goukouni Oueddei. At the end of the audience, the ambassador kindly answered questions from the press concerning the present situation in Chad, security and relations between Libya and Chad.

[Begin recording] [Laokole] It is difficult at the moment to present to you the exact situation. But I can tell you that I have just delivered to the founding chairman a written message from President Goukouni Oueddei. Concerning the content of this message, as you know it is the recipient who should disclose it.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, what is the state of relations between Libya and Chad?

[Answer] You know the state of relations between Libya and Chad. The Chadian people are now enjoying some security thanks to Libya's military intervention. The most serious problem now facing the Chadian people and government is what should be done in the future to maintain this security and ensure the replacement of the Libyan troops.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, the representatives of the parties opposed to President Goukouni Oueddei recently demonstrated goodwill by announcing that they accepted the amnesty granted them by the president. Is there any contact between the government and the representatives of the opposition?

[Answer] As you have said, the government has indeed granted amnesty to its opponents. Last July the government issued an ordinance granting amnesty to all opposition elements now living abroad. This was an important gesture. It is necessary that these opposition elements should return to Chad to have very concrete discussions with the government.

[Question] Does this amnesty also include Hissein Habre?

[Answer] You are certainly aware that the amnesty does not include Hissein Habre.

[Question] Chad's problems include enormous economic difficulties. Now that the war has ended, what is the exact economic situation in Chad?

[Answer] It is quite difficult to present to you the country's economic situation. The scope of the damage is such that we need time to assess it correctly. [End recording]

MOBUTU OUTLINES STRUCTURE OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

AB171559 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Excerpts] The founding chairman of the MPR, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, has, by Ordinance No 81/77 of 13 August 1981, outlined the standing orders of the party's Executive Committee. The founding chairman is, in fact, implementing state decision no 5/CC/81 of 8 June. Here is the ordinance:

The founding chairman of the MPR, president of the Republic, considering the Constitution, especially Articles 30 and 96; considering point 6 of State Decision No 5/CC/81 of June; considering Ordinance No 80/203 of 27 August, 1980, relating to the appointment of the members of the Executive Committee of the MPR, decrees:

Chapter 1--General provisions:

Article 1--In conformity with Article 93 of the Constitution, the present standing orders outline the organization and functions of the Executive Committee of the MPR.

Article 2--In conformity with paragraph 6 of Article 36 of the Constitution, the founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic is the chairman of the Executive Committee.

Chapter 2--Role, composition and duties of the Executive Committee.

Section 1--Role of the Executive Committee:

Article 3--The Executive Committee is responsible for the coordination of the MPR's specialized organs and the control of the activities of the subordinate organizations in the regions and the party cells. In this connection, it is its duty to ensure the further training of the cadres, the mobilization and ideological training of the masses and the youth and the improvement of the condition of the Zairian women as well as the propagation of the MPR's ideals.

Section 2--Composition of the Executive Committee:

Article 4--The Executive Committee is composed of the executive secretary who is the committee's coordinator, the secretaries general for political mobilization, propaganda, mass rallying, women's welfare, cadre training and the party's youth movement, as well as the Executive Council's spokesman. The executive secretary and the secretaries general are appointed and, if necessary, dismissed by the MPR chairman and president of the republic.

Article 10--The general secretariats are specialized branches of the MPR. Their duties and methods of operation are outlined by this ordinance as well as by special internal regulations issued by the president of the republic.

Article 11--The secretaries general are responsible for their secretariats. They implement the programs and decisions approved by the party's supreme organs.

Article 16--The secretary general of the Zairian National Workers Union and the general political instructor of the Zairian Armed Forces take part in the meetings of the Excutive Committee so that they may be consulted if the need arises.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EXPLAINS 6 AUG EXERCISES

AB151102 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Excerpts] The weekly meeting of the Executive Council held on Friday, 14 August 1981, was presided over by the first state commissioner, Citizen Nsinga Odjuu Ongwakebi Untube.

The first state commissioner's introductory speech enabled the council to dwell at length on the frenzied campaign mounted abroad on the tightening of security measures in Kinshasa marked by the permanent presence of elements of our army who have been undertaking strategic exercises in our capital.

As is well known by the public, almost 4 years ago the Executive Council established a restructuring program for our armed forces with the help of some friendly countries, namely, the Kingdom of Belgium, the People's Republic of China and France.

Under this program, a certain number of tactical exercises of mock maneuvers are undertaken by units of our armed forces in order to test their combat readiness. The public will remember, for example, the maneuvers which took place in Kolwezi in the Cshaba Region, in Kotchakoli in the Equateur Region, in Kisangani in the Haut-Zaire Region, in Bas-Zaire and very soon in Kivu.

It was within this framework that elements of our armed forces based in Kinshasa were subjected to prolonged exercises in the city on the night of 6 August. But since that date, these tactical exercises and maneuvers have been attracting tendentious comments in some foreign circles and international press that this military mobilization was meant to be an alert due to the increasing fear of possible troubles. This has resulted in creating panic among foreign nationals as well as some citizens.

The Executive Council, having analyzed at length this situation, deplores this alarmist and subversive behavior of the said circles, behavior which is tantamount to interference in the internal affairs of our country. The Executive Council therefore reaffirms that as a sovereign state and unless this constitutes any danger to the country, Zaire is not under any obligation whatsoever to give prior information on the activities of its armed forces.

GHANA

DAILY GRAPHIC EXAMINES LESSONS OF GAMBIAN COUP

AB171007 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The DAILY GRAPHIC writes on some lessons Ghanaians can learn from the recent abortive coup in The Gambia. The paper notes that, as has been seen in Ghana and other developing countries, the charges against President Jawara range from corruption to tribalism by the coup makers. The GRAPHIC says, judging from the enthusiastic reaction to the coup from the local people, there seems to be some substance in the charge of corruption against the government. But, it thinks, however incompetent President Jawara's government was, no soldier, politican or private individual could overthrow it by force. On the accusation that the Gambian leader had been rigging and manipulating parliamentary elections, thus making a change in his 18-year rule impossible, the GRAPHIC has nothing against such long reigns which is not uncommon in the traditional African system of government. It, however, insists that such a situation in modern times which is a mark of stability should be made possible through scrupulous adherence to and respect for constitutional provisions. The GRAPHIC says the third lesson from the Gambian debacle is the exposure of the vulnerability of coups to be (?seized) from determined politicians and law enforcers. It observes that President Jawara's feat of fighting to restore such authority was made possible because of his country's mutual defense pact with Senegal. The importance of such pacts should therefore dawn on all nations struggling to build democratic societies.

LIBERIA

FORMER LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTER RELEASED

AB160700 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Former local government Minister Maj Oscar Quiah was this morning released from further detention at the port stockade at the Barclay Training Center in Monrovia and he is to report to the Defense Ministry for notice.

Releasing Major Quiah on behalf of commander in chief and head of state Samuel Kanyon Doe, the commander of the port stockade, Lt Col E.C. Boweih told Mr Quiah: As a result of the investigation by the Special Military Tribunal, you were found not guilty of the charge against you for lack of sufficient evidence. I am, therefore, directed by the commander in chief to release you from the (boye) cell.

For his part, the former local government minister said: he had been detained three times at the port stockade not for the things I do but for things people think I do. He said he would be ungrateful to do anything contrary to the revolution and promised to do his best.

NIGERIA

COAL PACT WITH POLISH FIRM TO BE REVIEWED

AB141217 Lagos NAN in English 1150 GMT 14 Aug 81

[By reporter Kris Ude]

[Text] Enugu, 14 Aug (NAN)--The Federal Government is to review the coal mechanization agreement with a Polish firm. The minister of mines and power, Alhaji Mohammed Hassan, made this known at the Enugu Airport yesterday on arrival with his Guinean counterpart, Ismael Toure, to begin a two-day official visit to Anambra State. The minister said that the Federal Government was not happy that the mechanization program had not brought about the anticipated boost in the country's production of coal.

He explained that prior to mechanization, the country produced 600,000 tons of coal per annum and expected that production would rise to 1,000,000 tons on completion, but he said that regrettably, production had slumped to a mere 300,000 tons, instead.

Alhaji Mohammed said that consequently, the government was embarking on a radical reorganization of the coal industry in order to fully exploit its potentials. He explained that the new arrangement would aim at simultaneously boosting the production and diversifying the use of coal.

MINING COOPERATION WITH GUINEA TO BE STRENGTHENED

AB160933 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Nigeria and Guinea have agreed to strengthen existing areas of cooperation and pledge new ones especially in the fields of mining and geology. These were some of the decisions reached during the visit to Nigeria of the Guinean minister of mines and geology, Ismael Toure. In a joint communique, the two countries agreed to explore all avenues in order to exploit mineral resources to their mutual advantage, while geologists from both countries as well as mining engineers are to engage in joint mining projects in Guinea.

OIL PRODUCTION REPORTED DOWN 40 PERCENT

AB141729 Lagos NAN in English 1710 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] Lagos, 14 Aug (NAN)--The special adviser on energy, Alhaji Yahaya Dikko, said in Lagos today that Nigeria's oil production had dropped to 1,200,000 barrels per day. This constitutes a drop of 40 per cent from the pipe-oil [word indistinct] level of two million barrels per day, he said.

The adviser, who was addressing State House correspondents on the economy of the country, said that Libya too had a production drop [of] 40 percent, while Kuwait had a drop of 45 percent.

He said that Nigeria could not say whether or not it would agree to a price reduction, but that it would abide by the decision which the OPEC meeting scheduled for August 19 in Geneva might take.

The director of budget, Chief T.A. Akinyele, who was also at the news conference, said that the budget estimates for 1982 would have to be cut down by 30 percent in view of the reduced earnings from oil.

SHAGARI URGED TO REVIEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

AB141200 Lagos NAN in English 1105 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] Kaduna, 14 Aug (NAN)--A member of the House of Representatives, Alhaji M.B. Mustapha (Bida Central), has called on President Shehu Shagari to set up a machinery for the total review of the local government administration in order to achieve maximum stability, peace and security in the country. He said that the present operation of local government was not in the best interest of the nation.

In a statement in Kaduna on Wednesday, Alhaji Mustapha regretted that the local government reforms introduced by the military administration had failed. He alleged that the ineffectiveness of the ministries of local government throughout the federation contributed to the poor performances of the various local governments.

The legislator said that he was of the opinion that for local governments to become effective, emirate councils and their equivalents must be fully involved in the running of local government councils, and suggested the setting-up of security committees in all local government areas with the chairman of the emirate or traditional council as chairman.

He also suggested that the posts of traditional rulers in the country, including those of village and ward heads, should be regarded as established posts chargeable direct to the consolidated revenue in order to protect such office holders from partisan politics.

UPN URGES SHAGARI TO REMOVE NPP APPOINTEES

AB161407 Lagos NAN in English 1330 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Lagos, 16 Aug (NAN)--The National Party of Nigeria (NPN) has urged President Shehu Shagari to remove members of the NPP [Nigerian People's Party] now holding appointments as chairman and directors of boards of Federal Government parastatals.

A communique issued in Lagos yesterday at the end of a two-day meeting of the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the party said that such an action was necessary because of the utterances and double standards of the NPP leadership. In it, the NEC commended President Shagari for accepting the resignation of NPP ministers and praised the NPN leadership for accepting the breakup of the NPP/NPN accord which it said was unilateraly initiated by the NPP.

The NEC condemned Governor Bisi Onabanjo of Ogun State for using the temporary oil glut to paint a bleak future of the nation's economy. According to the communique, the governor was looking for a coverup for his inability to execute the UPN [United Party of Nigeria] so-called cardinal points.

The NEC expressed satisfaction with the explanation given by the Federal Government on the economic situation of the country. The party fixed Rivers State as the venue of its 1981 convention.

SUSPENDED GNPP CHAIRMAN EXPELLED FROM PARTY

AB161411 Lagos NAN in English 1345 GMT 16 Aug 81

[Text] Kaduna, 16 Aug (NAN)--The national chairman of the Great Nigeria People's Party, Alhaji Waziri Ibrahim, who was suspended last week by the National Executive Committee (NEC) Oyapa faction of the party, was yesterday expelled. The resolution to expel Alhaji Waziri was adopted in Kaduna by the national congress of the party which was summoned by Senator Mammud Waziri.

Senator Mammud was later elected national chairman of the faction. Senator Joseph Ansa was elected the new deputy-chairman while Mr Ayaneibo became the national secretary of the party.

PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER REPORTS ON NATIONAL ECONOMY

AB141438 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] At a news conference in Lagos today, the state of the nation's economy was presented by the special adviser to the president on economic affairs, Prof Emmanuel Edozien. Professor Edozien dealt extensively on the present flow of money and the foreign exchange position as well as the current industrial and market climate.

[Begin recording] Since Nigeria depends on oil for about 90 percent of her foreign exchange revenue and an equally high proportion of government revenue, the situation should normally be of concern to any serious-minded Nigerian. Nevertheless, it should be clear to any impartial observer that the glut has nothing to do with any alledged mismanagement of the Nigerian economy. Rather, it is due to several extraneous factors which are not within the government's immediate control, such as Saudi Arabia's oil production policy, conservation efforts and reduction of consumption in the industrialized countries, as a result of economic recession there and the increases in non-OPEC oil production--all of which have led to the decrease in the demand for Nigerian oil as well as that of other producing countries.

In spite of the foregoing, the situation is not grave as the recent campaign seeks to prove. Because oil production and revenue figures for the first quarter of 1981 exceeded the initial estimates, the decline in the second quarter has not had as much negative impact on the economy as the recent developments in the world oil market would have engendered. It was, however, realized that the unfavorable development in the international marketplace for our oil called for prudence and discipline in establishing and adhering to our priorities. And, Mr President most responsibly alerted the statement of financial position of the Goverrnment of Nigeria as at 17 July, 1981, indicates that the external reserves stood at 5.328 billion naira which, compared with the position as at the end of 1980, shows that there has been a net increase in foreign exchange accumulation.

The monthly average inflow for the first five months of the year was 1.206 billion compared to 1.139 billion for the corresponding period in 1980. Also, the average outflow for the period January to May 1981 amounted to 1.131 billion naira which implies that there has been an average monthly increase in foreign exchange reserves by 75 million naira. Thus, contrary to the claims made by the ill-advised campaign, the external reserves increased by 373.4 million during the first five months of 1981. [end recording]

SENEGAL

FRANCE'S COT HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN DAKAR

AB161022 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Aug 81

[Text] Mr Jean-Pierre Cot, French cooperation and development minister, leaves Dakar for Paris tomorrow at the end of his 4-day official visit to Senegal. But before flying back to Paris, he said that Senegal did not make any special demands on France at the time of its military intervention in the Gambia.

Mr Cot, who was addressing a press conference in Dakar, on discussing the intervention, said that France does not intend to interfere in Senegal's internal affairs. What happened is purely the Senegalese Government's affair, he said, but that does not mean that France will not come to Senegal's aid if Senegalese authorities ask for help whenever Senegal's seucrity is threatened, since we have agreements. Senegal, he continued, knows it can rely on France [words indistinct].

Mr Cot believes that the problem of security in Africa is very worrying because of the interventions of superpowers or the ambitions of certain African countries. As far as France is concerned, he said, that is even more reason why it will always be on the side of its friends to ensure their independence, their right to preserve their territorial integrity, their sovereignty and their nonalignment.

Asked about the situation in he CAR, Jean-Pierre Cot said that the French Government intends to continue to have bilateral relations with the CAR and other countries and to help it while avoiding any form of interference in its internal affairs. This aid, he added, is even more necessary because the CAR suffered a great deal under its previous regime and is finding it difficult to regain its administrative structure, economic life and public order.

The French cooperation and development minister said his African tour will confirm France's wish to associate itself with African states in their political struggle so that theywould be united to find a new international economic order. Mr Cot also stressed the French Government's determination to strengthen its dialogue with English-speaking and Portuguese-speaking African countries. He placed this dialogue within a political framework and explained that France sees Africa as one entity because African countries have the same problems. He, however, added that the expansion of cooperation, which would depend on the volume of French assistance to the whole of Africa, can only be envisaged within the European framework and on a long-term basis.

France, he said, does not have the means to give the whole of Africa significantly greater aid. It should, therefore, concentrate its efforts on its traditional friends. But we have the ambition to be the dynamic and driving element within the Europe-Africa cooperation system.

My Cot also emphasized that Africa expects much from its cooperation with France despite a certain number of [words indistinct]. After recalling that the French Government is determined to double its assistance in the future, the French minister stressed the need to (?rectify) the past mistakes made in French-African cooperation so that we can get onto the new path which takes African realities into account.

SIERRA LEONE

PRESIDENT STEVENS ANNOUNCES NEW PRICES FOR RICE

AB170956 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Speech by Sierra Leonean President Siaka Stevens to the nation following threats of a general strike in the country, delivered in Freetown--live]

[Text] Fellow citizens, I am glad to report that the Sierra Leone Labor Congress on Saturday accepted my invitation to hold talks on their proposals. Representatives of the government and of the congress held a lengthy discussion of the points made by the congress. The congress representatives put their case to government. Obviously, we could not, in one meeting, conclude talks on the very important issues raised and so it was agreed that the talks would continue on Tuesday at 1100, 18 August.

In the meantime, the government has decided to take certain immediate measures. But before I give you details of the measures, I want you to know that there is no shortage of rice in government stores. What has happened is that some greedy and unpatriotic traders, in order to satisfy their own selfish ends, have raised the price of this most essential commodity, and I want all concerned to know that government will not stand for this.

I will now give you details of the arrangements which the government has made. The landed and selling prices of the following categories of rice at the SLPMB [Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board] store are as follows:

Grade 1 rice, commonly known as Japanese: a bag of 134 lbs weight--37.60 leones. That is the landed and the selling prices; both are the same.

Grade 2 rice: bag of 100 lbs weight--landed and selling prices, 28 leones, I repeat 28 leones.

Grade 3 Rice: 100 lbs bag weight--landed and selling price, 23 leones.

As from Monday, 17 August rice will be sold as follows:

Western Area. The controlled selling prices will be as follows: Japanese rice--134 lbs is 40 leones per bag, 18 cents per cup. Grade 2 rice--30 leones per 100 lbs bag, 16 cents per cup. Grade 3 rice--24 leones per 100 lbs bag, 14 cents per cup.

In the provinces, that is [names indistinct] districts:

Grade 1--42 leones per bag of 100 lbs, 19 cents per cup. Grade 2--32 leones per bag, 17 cents per cup. Grade 3--25 leones per bag, 16 cents per cup.

In the [names indistinct] areas, a 134 lbs Japanese bag will be 43 leones and 20 cents per cup. Grade 2 will be 33 leones per bag of 100 lbs, 18 cents per cup. Grade 3--26 leones per bag, 16 cents per cup.

For other distribution, it was agreed that the Sierra Leone Labor Cognress should assist in the distribution and they will be supplied through State House. The method of distribution for the provinces will be through the party chairmen, district officers and members of parliament for the areas. The method of distribution for the western area will be through the honorable S.A.G. (Pratty) and the Chief Alfred Lakibubett.

A decision has been taken to set up a profiteering court to deal strictly, indeed very strictly, with all cases of profiteering.

Further Price Adjustments

AB180925 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0650 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Further adjustments have been made to the prices of the various grades of rice. The following prices are now in effect:

The 134 lb weight bag of Japanese rice 5 percent broken, will be sold to the public by the Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board (SLPMB) at 37.60 leones.

The controlled retail prices in the Western Area will be 40 leones per bag and 18 cents per cup.

In zone one, that is Makenie, Port Loko, Kambia Moyamba, Bo and Maboka the retail prices are 42 leones per bag and 19 cents per cup.

In Zone two, Kenema, Kono, Kolahun, Kabala, Pujehun and Bonde, the prices are 43 leones per bag and 20 cents per cup.

The SLPMB will sell the 100 lb weight bag which is 5 to 35 percent broken at 24 leones. Retailers in the Western area should sell this grade at 26 Leones and 14 cents per cup.

Retailers in zone one should sell it at 28 leones per bag and 15 cents per cup. Those retailers in zone two should sell at 29 leones per bag and 16 cents per cup.

The third grade of rice is the 100 lb weight bag which is 35 percent broken upwards. This grade will be sold to the public by the SLPMB at 20 leones a bag. Retail price in the Western area is 21 leones per bag and 12 cents per cup. In zone one, the retail prices are 22 leones per bag and 13 cents per cup. Retailers in zone two should retail this third grade at 23 leones per bag and 14 cents per cup.

TWO FORMER MINISTERS' RETURN TO CABINET ANNOUNCED

AB142025 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] Two former ministers have returned to the cabinet while two others have exchanged ministries, a release from state announced today.

Mr A.G. Semu-Fornah takes over the portfolio of energy and power and Mr S.B. Marah is now minister of the interior. Both ministries were vacant.

The new minister of trade and industry is Mr P.P.B. Kebbie and his former portfolio of transport and communications is now held by Mr S.A.J. Pratt who was at trade and industry. Mr Semu-Fornah was sworn in this evening.

SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTER EXAMINES 'CLOSER TIES' WITH U.S.

LD180514 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] The South African minister of industries, commerce and tourism, Dr David de Villiers, says the Reagan administration has contributed to closer economic ties between South Africa and the United States. He said in an interview in Cape Town that the government was keen that foreign-controlled companies operating in strategic sectors should have a substantial South African equity participation. Dr de Villiers said that the South African Government hoped that the Reagan administration would remove restrictions on trade between the two countries, including the curb on American exports to military, police and nuclear entities in South Africa.

DIRK MUDGE VIEWS UN STANCE ON NAMIBIA ELECTIONS

LD172212 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] The chairman of the Ministers' Council of South-West Africa/Nambia, Mr Dirk Mudge, says the United Nations will not be allowed to decide beforehand who the winner of the elections in the territory will be. Addressing a meeting in the South African port of Durban, he said many people thought South-West Africa/Namibia was dragging its feet about independence, but this was because of the referees being shown to be [words indistinct] of one of the parties. Mr Mudge said that South-West Africa/Namibia would not be forced by anyone, or any organization, or leading country, into an undemocratic election. Mr Mudge said consideration would have to be given to the close economic ties between the territory and South Africa because there could be conflicting interests. Increased South African interest rates had had serious effects on the economy of South-West Africa/Namibia which was dependent on growth.

ZIMBABWEAN AIRCRAFT FLOWN ILLEGALLY TO S. AFRICA

CA171912 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] It has been announced in Salisbury that a twin-engined Cessna aircraft of the Zimbabwean Air Force has been flown illegally from the Thornhill base near Gwelo to Messina in South Africa. The statement says that the aircraft was apparently taken at 1530 yesterday afternoon and flown out with a young technician, Corporal Mark (Jeffreys), at the controls. It is believed that Corporal (Jeffreys) does not have a pilot's license and he was servicing the aircraft when he took it. SAPA reports from Pretoria that Corporal (Jeffreys) has applied to the military authorities in the northern Transvaal for political asylum. The report quotes defense headquarters as saying the Government of Zimbabwe has been informed through diplomatic channels that the aircraft has landed in South Africa.